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(54) Title: PROTEIN L AND HYBRID PROTEINS THEREOF**(57) Abstract**

The invention relates to sequences of protein L which bind to light chains of immunoglobulins. The invention also relates to hybrid proteins thereof which are able to bind to both light and heavy chains of immunoglobulin G, in particular protein LG. The invention also relates to DNA-sequences which code for the proteins, vectors which include such DNA-sequences, host cells which have been transformed with the vectors, methods for producing the proteins, reagent appliances for separation and identification of immunoglobulins, compositions and pharmaceutical compositions which contain the proteins.

Protein L and Hybrid Proteins Thereof

The present invention relates to sequences of protein L which bind to light chains of immunoglobulins. The 5 invention also relates to hybrid proteins of protein L having the ability to bind to light chains of all Ig and also to bind to light and heavy chains of immunoglobulin G, DNA-sequences which code for the proteins vectors that contain such DNA-sequences, host cells transformed 10 by the vectors, methods for preparing the proteins, reagent apparatus for separating and identifying immunoglobulins, compositions and pharmaceutical compositions which contain the proteins.

15 The invention relates in particular to the DNA-sequence and to the amino acid sequence of the light-chain forming domains of protein L.

20 Proteins which bind to the constant domains (of high affinity) of the immunoglobulins (Ig) are known. Thus, protein A (from Staphylococcus aureus) (Forsgren, A. and Sjöquist, J. (1966) Protein A from Staphylococcus aureus. I. Pseudo-immune reaction with human gamma-globulin. J. Immunol. 97: 822-827) binds to IgG from 25 various mammal species. The binding of protein A to IgG is mediated essentially via surfaces in the Fc-fragment of the heavy chain of the IgG-molecule, although a certain bond is also effected with surfaces in the Fab-fragment of the IgG. Protein A lacks the ability of 30 binding to human IgG3 and neither will it bind to IgG from several other animal species, such as important laboratory animals, for instance rats and goats, which limits the use of protein A.

35 Protein G (Björck, L. and Kronvall, G. (1984) Purification and some properties of streptococcal protein G, a

novel IgG-binding reagent. J. Immunol. 133: 969-974; R is, K., Ayoub, E. and Boyle, M. (1984) Streptococcal Fc receptors. I. Isolation and partial characterization of the receptor from a group C streptococcus. J. Immunol. 132: 3091-3097) binds to heavy chains in human IgG and to all four of its subclasses and also to IgG from most mammals, including rats and goats.

10 Protein H (Åkesson, P., Cooney, J., Kishimoto, F. and Björck, L. (1990) Protein H - a novel IgG binding bacterial protein. Molec. Immun. 27: 523-531) binds to the Fc-fragment in IgG from human beings, monkeys and rabbits. However, the bond is weaker than in the case of protein G and A, which may be beneficial when wishing to 15 break the bond with a weak agent, for instance when purifying proteins which are readily denatured with the aid of antibodies.

20 Protein M (Applicant's Patent Application PCT/SE 91100447) binds to the Fc-fragment in IgG from humans, monkeys, rabbits, goats, mice and pigs.

25 Protein L (Björck, L. (1988) Protein L, a novel bacterial cell wall protein with affinity to Ig L chains. J. Immunol. 140: 1194-1197), which binds to the light chains in immunoglobulins from all of the classes G, A, M, D and E is known (USP 4,876,194). The amino acid sequence and the binding domains of this protein, however, have hitherto been unknown.

30 The aforesaid proteins can be used in the analysis, purification and preparation of antibodies and for diagnostic and biological research.

35 The elimination of immunoglobulins, with the aid of

plasmaph resis, can have a favourable effect on some autoimmune diseases. A broadly binding protein would be an advantage wh n wishing to eliminate all classes of antibodies in this context.

5

It has long been known that infectious conditions can be prevented or cured with the introduction of an immune serum, i.e. a serum which is rich in antibodies against the organism concerned or its potentially harmful product. Examples hereof are epidemic jaundice, tetanus, diphtheria, rabies and generalized shingles. Antibodies against a toxic product may also be effective in the case of non-infectious occasioned conditions. Serum produced in animals against different snake venoms is the most common application in this respect. However, the administration of sera or antibody preparations is not totally without risk. Serious immunological reactions can occur in some cases. Singular cases of the transmission of contagious diseases, such as HIV and hepatitis through the agency of these products have also been described. In order to avoid these secondary effects, it has been desirable to produce therapeutic antibodies in test tubes. A large number of novel techniques for the preparation of antibodies in test tubes have been proposed in recent years. Examples of such techniques are hybridom techniques, synthesis of chima- antibodies and the preparation of antibodies in bacte- ria. These techniques also enable antibodies to be specially designed which can further widen the use of such molecules as therapeutics, for instance in the case of certain tumour-diseases. In the case of some of these novel methods, however, the product totally lacks the Fc-fragment to which all of the described IgG-binding proteins, with the exception of protein L, bind. There is consequently a need of a process for purifying anti-

bodies for therapeutic use, wherein proteins which have a broad binding activity/specificity, can be of value.

It has long been possible to utilize the antibody reaction with its high grade specificity for diagnosing past or, in some cases, ongoing infections with different parasites. This indirect method of indicating infectious agents is called serology and, in many cases, may be the only diagnostic alternative. In certain cases, it can also be of interest to exhibit specific IgE- or IgA- antibodies. When diagnosing with the aid of serology, the antigen is most often fastened to a solid phase, whereafter serum taken from the patient is incubated with the antigen. Antibodies that have been bound from the patient can then be detected in different ways, often with the aid of a secondary antibody (for instance, an antibody which is directed against the light chains of human antibodies) to which an identifiable label has been attached, such as alkaline phosphatase, biotin, radioactive isotopes, fluorescein, etc. In this context, a protein having a broad Ig binding capacity can be used as an alternative to secondary antibodies.

There are a number of non-therapeutic and non-diagnostic reasons for the necessity to bind antibodies. Antibodies are often used in research, both for detection and for purifying the antigen against which they are directed. All techniques which facilitate the purification of antibodies and, in particular, techniques which enable different classes to be purified, are of interest in this context.

Consequently, there is a serious need of a protein which has a broad binding activity/specificity and which binds to several different classes of immunoglobulins from different animal species. At present, there is no known

protein which will bind to all immunoglobulin classes. The earlier known proteins A, G, H and M bind only to heavy chains in IgG. The known protein L (Björck et al, 1988) binds to the light χ -chains and γ -chains in immunoglobulins of all classes, although the bonds are much weaker on the κ -chains. Applicant has charted protein L, has determined the amino acid sequence for protein L, has identified the light-chain binding domains on protein L, and has used these to produce hybrid proteins which possess the IgG-Fc-binding domains of protein G. The Applicant is able to show through protein LG that a protein of broader binding activity/specificity can be produced thereby. The aforesaid proteins A, G, H and M bind to the same surfaces, or to very closely lying surfaces on IgG-Fc. The protein L which binds to light chains can thus be combined with any other functionally similar protein which binds to the Fc-fragment of heavy chains. A similar broadening of the Ig-binding activity is achieved with all alternatives.

Thus, the present invention relates to the sequence of protein L which binds to light chains in Ig and has the amino acid sequence disclosed in Figure 1, and variants, subfragments, multiples or mixtures of the domains B1-B5 having the same binding properties. The invention also relates to a DNA-sequence which codes for such protein sequences, for instance the DNA-sequence in Figure 1.

The invention is concerned with a hybrid protein which is characterized by comprising domains which bind to the light χ -chains and λ -chains in immunoglobulins of all classes, and also comprises domains which bind to heavy chains in immunoglobulin G, wherein those domains which bind to the light chains are chosen from among the B1-, B2-, B3-, B4- and B5-domains in protein L (see Claim 1)

and those domains which bind to heavy chains of immuno-globulins are chosen from the C1-, C2- and C3-domains in protein G; the A-, B- and C1-domains from protein H; the A-, B1-, B2- and S-domains in protein M1 or the E-, D-, 5 A-, B- and C-domains in protein A (see Figure 6) and variants, subfragments, multiples or mixtures of these domains that have the same binding properties which bind to heavy chains of immunoglobulins.

10 By subfragment is meant a part-fragment of the given domains or fragments which include parts from the various domains having mutually the same binding properties. By variants is meant proteins or peptides in which the original amino acid sequence has been modified or 15 changed by insertion, addition, substitution, inversion or exclusion of one or more amino acids, although while retaining or improving the binding properties. The invention also relates to those proteins which contain several arrays (multiples) of the binding domains or 20 mixtures of the binding domains with retained binding properties. The invention also relates to mixtures of the various domains of amino acid sequences having mutually the same binding properties.

25 The invention relates in particular to a hybrid protein designated LG, and is characterized in that the hybrid protein includes the B-domains in protein L which bind to the light chains in immunoglobulins, and the C1-domains and C2-domains in protein G which bind to heavy 30 chains and have the amino acid sequence disclosed in Figure 3. The invention also relates to variants, sub-fragments, multiples or mixtures of these domains.

35 Protein LG is a hybrid protein having a molecular weight of about 50 kDa (432 amino acids) and comprising four domains, each of which binds to light chains in immuno-

globulins, and two IgG-binding domains from protein G. The hybrid protein combines a broad IgG-binding activity, deriving from the high-grade binding ability of protein G to the Fc-fragment of the heavy chain on IgG with the ability of the protein L to bind to light chains of all classes of immunoglobulins. Thus, protein LG binds polyclonal human IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD and IgE. The affinity for human polyclonal IgG is $2 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$. All four human immunoglobulin classes are bound. Binding to human IgG is effected with both the κ -and the λ -chain. Both the Fc-fragment and the Fab-fragment of IgG are bound to the hybrid protein. The protein also binds human IgA-, IgD-, IgE- and IgM-antibodies. The bond is stronger to human immunoglobulins which carry κ than to those which carry the λ -isotope of light chains. IgG from most mammals will be bound by protein LG, thus also IgG from goats and cows, which do not bind to protein L. However, rabbit-IgG which binds relatively weakly to protein L will bind well to the fusion protein. IgM and IgA-antibodies from mice, rats and rabbits will be bound to the protein.

Protein LG is highly soluble. It is able to withstand heat and will retain its binding properties even at high temperatures. The binding properties also remain in a broad pH-range of 3-10. The protein withstands detergent and binds marked or labelled proteins subsequent to separation in SDS-PAGE and transference to membranes with elektroblotting. The protein can be immobilized on a solid phase (nitrocellulose, Immobilon®, polyacryl-amide, plastic, metal and paper) without losing its binding capacity. The binding properties are not influenced by marking with radioactive substances, biotin or alkaline phosphatase. (The binding abilities of the protein LG are disclosed in Example 3).

The protein comprises 432 amino acids and has a molecular weight of 50 kDa deriving therefrom. The sequence is constructed of an ala sequence of the three last amino acids in the A-domain of the protein L (val-glu-asn), 5 this ala sequence being unrelated to the two proteins, whereafter the four mutually high-grade homologous B-domains from protein L follow. The first of the B-domains is comprised of 76 amino acids, and the remaining domains are each comprised of 72 amino acids. The first 10 nine amino acids from the fifth B-domain are included and followed by two non-related amino acids (pro-met). The protein G-sequences then follow. The last amino acid in the so-called S-domain from protein G is followed by an IgG-binding domain from protein G (C1; 55 amino 15 acids), the intermediate D-region (15 amino acids) and the second IgG-binding C-domain (C2; 55 amino acids). The last amino acid is a methionine, which occurs in natural protein G as the first amino acid in the so-called W-region.

20

The invention also relates to DNA-sequences which code for the aforesaid proteins.

25

The gene which codes for the IgG-binding amino acid sequences can be isolated from the chromosomal DNA from Staphylococcus aureus based on the information on the DNA-sequence for protein A (S. Löfdahl, B. Guss, M. Uhlen, L. Philipsson and M. Lindberg. 1983. Gene for staphylococcal protein A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.

30

80: 697-701) and Figure 6, or from G-streptococcus, preferably strain G 148 or C-streptococcus, preferably strain Streptococcus equisimilis C 40, based on the information on protein G (B. Guss, M. Eliasson, A. Olsson, M. Uhlen, A.-K. Frej, H. Jörvall, I. Flock and M. Lindberg. 1986. Structure of the IgG-binding

regions of streptococcal protein G. EMBO. J. 5: 1567-1575) and Figure 6, or from group A-streptococcus, e.g. S. pyogenes (type M1) based on the information on the DNA-sequence for protein H (H. Gomi, T. Hozumi, 5 S. Hattori, C. Tagawa, F. Kishimoto and L. Björck. 1990. The gene sequence and some properties of protein H - a novel IgG binding protein J. Immunol. 144: 4046-4052) and Figure 6, or from the chromosomal DNA in group A-streptococcus type M1 based on the information on the 10 DNA-sequence for protein M (Applicant's Patent Application, PCT/SE 91100447) and Figures 6 and 7. The gene which codes for the protein that binds to light chains can be isolated from the chromosomal DNA from Pepto-coccus magnus 312 based on the information on the DNA- 15 sequence for protein L in Claim 2.

By using the chromosomal DNA't obtained from the aforesaid bacteria as a template, a DNA-fragment defined with the aid of two synthetic oligonucleotides can then be 20 specifically amplified with the aid of PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction). This method also enables recognition sites to be incorporated for restriction enzymes in the ends of the amplified fragments (PCR technology, Ed: PCR Technology. Principles and Applications for DNA Amplification. Ed. Henry Erlich. Stockton Press, New York, 25 1989). The choice of recognition sequences can be adapted in accordance with the vector chosen to express the fragment or the DNA-fragment or other DNA-fragments with which the amplified fragment is intended to be combined. 30 The amplified fragment is then cleaved with the restriction enzyme or enzymes concerned and is combined with the fragment/the other fragments concerned and the fragments are then cloned together in the chosen vector (in this case, the expression vector) (Sambrook, J.E. 35 Fritsch and T. Maniatis, 1989, Molecular cloning: A laboratory manual, 2nd Ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laborato-

ries, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, USA). The plasmid vector pHD313 can be used (Dalbøge, H.E. Bech Jensen, H. Töttrup, A. Grubb, M. Abrahamson, I. Olafsson and S. Carlsen, 1989. High-level expression of active human cystatin C in Escherichia coli. *Gene*, 79: 325-332), alternatively one of the vectors in the so-called PET-series (PET 20, 21, 22, 23) retailed by Novagen (Madison, Wisconsin, USA).

10 The hybrid proteins are then incorporated in an appropriate host, preferably *E. coli*. The invention also relates to such hosts as those in which the hybrid proteins are incorporated.

15 Those clones which produce the desired proteins can be selected from the resultant transformants with the aid of a known method (Fahnestock et al., *J. Bacteriol.* 167, 870 (1986)).

20 When the proteins that can bind to the light chains in the immunoglobulins and to the heavy chains in IgG have been purified from the resultant positive clones with the aid of conventional methods, the binding specificities of the proteins are determined for selection of 25 those clones which produce a protein that will bind to the light chains in immunoglobulins and to the heavy chains in IgG.

30 Subsequent to having isolated plasmid DNA't in said clone with conventional methods, the DNA-sequence in the inserted material is determined with known methods (Sanger et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 74, 5463 (1977)).

35 The invention also relates to DNA-sequences which hybridize with said identified DNA-sequences under conven-

tional conditions and which code for a protein that possesses the desired binding properties. Strict hybridizing conditions are preferred.

5 Expression of the genes can be effected with expression vectors which have the requisite expression control regions, the structural gene being introduced after said regions. As illustrated in Figure 1 and Claim 2, the structural gene can be used for protein LG or other
10 hybrid proteins with protein L.

With regard to expression vectors, different host-vector-systems have been developed, of which the most suitable host-vector-systems can be selected for expression of the genes according to the present invention.
15

The present invention also relates to a method of producing the inventive hybrid proteins by cultivating a host cell which is transformed with an expression vector
20 in which DNA't which codes for the proteins according to the invention is inserted.

This method includes the steps of

25 (1) inserting into a vector a DNA-fragment which codes for the hybrid proteins;

(2) transforming the resultant vector into an appropriate host cell;

30 (3) cultivating the resultant, transformed cell for preparation of the desired hybrid protein; and

(4) extracting the protein from the culture.

In the first step, the DNA-fragment which codes for the hybrid protein is inserted in a vector which is suitable for the host that is to be used to express the hybrid protein. The gene can be inserted by cleaving the vector with an appropriate restriction enzyme, and then ligating the gene with the vector.

In the second step, the vector with the hybrid plasmid is inserted into host cells. The host cells may be Escherichia, coli, Bacillus subtilis or Saccharomyces cerevisiae or other suitable cells. Transformation of the expressions hybrid vector into the host cell can be effected in a conventional manner and clones which have been transformed can then be selected.

In the third step, the obtained transformants are cultivated in an appropriate medium for preparation of the desired proteins by expression of the gene coded for the hybrid protein.

In the fourth step, the desired protein is extracted from the culture and then purified. This can be achieved with the aid of known methods. For instance, the cells can be lysed with the aid of known methods, by treating the cells with ultrasonic sound, enzymes or by mechanical degradation. The protein which is released from the cells or which excretes in the medium can be recovered and purified with the aid of conventional methods often applied within the biochemical field, such as ion-exchange chromatography, gel filtration, affinity chromatography with the use of immunoglobulins as ligands, hydrophobic chromatography or reverse-phase chromatography. These methods can be applied individually or in suitable combinations.

As before mentioned, the inventive proteins may be used for binding, identifying or purifying immunoglobulins. They can also be bound to pharmaceuticals and used in formulations which have delayed release properties. To 5 this end, the protein may be present in a reagent application for pharmaceutical composition in combination with appropriate reagents, additives or carriers.

The proteins can be handled in a freeze-dried state or 10 in a PBS-solution (phosphate-buffered physiological salt solution) pH 7.2 with 0.02% NaN₃. It can also be used connected to a solid phase, such as carbohydrate-based 15 phases, for instance CNBr-activated sepharose, agarose, plastic surfaces, polyacrylamide, nylon, paper, magnetic spheres, filter, films. The proteins may be marked with biotin, alkaline phosphatase, radioactive isotopes, fluorescein and other fluorescent substances, gold particles, ferritin, and substances which enable luminescence to be measured.

20 Other proteins may also be used as carriers. These carriers may be bound to or incorporated in the proteins, in accordance with the invention. For instance, it is conceivable to consider the whole of proteins A, 25 G, H, M as carriers for inserted sequences of protein L which bind to light chains. In turn, these carriers can be bound to the aforesaid carriers.

30 The pharmaceutical additions that can be used are those which are normally used within this field, such as pharmaceutical qualities of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharate, talcum, cellulose, glycose, gelatine, saccharose, magnesium carbonate and similar extenders, such as lactose, dicalcium phosphate and the like; bursting substances, such as starch 35 or derivatives thereof; lubricants such as magnesium

stearate and the like; binders, such as starch, gum arabicum, polyvinylpyrrolidone, gelatine, cellulose and derivatives thereof, and the like.

5 The invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the accompany drawings, in which

10 Figure 1 illustrates the plasmid pHD389; the ribosomal binding sequence, the sequence for the signal peptide from *ompA* and recognition sequence for several restriction enzymes are shown;

15 Figure 2 illustrates the amino acid and nucleic acid sequence for protein LG;

Figure 3 is a schematic overall view of the production of protein L;

20 Figure 4 is a schematic overall view of the production of protein LG;

Figures 5a, 5b and 5c are schematic overall views of the production of the hybrid proteins LA, LM and LH respectively;

25 Figure 6 is a schematic inclusive illustration of protein A, G, H and M1. IgGFc-binding domains are for protein A: E, D, A, B and C; for protein G: C1, C2 and C3; for protein H: A and/or B; and for protein M1: A, B1, B2, B3 and S;

30 Figure 7 illustrates the amino acid and nucleic acid sequence for protein M1;

Figure 8 illustrates Western Blot for protein G, L and LG with certain immunoglobulins and immunoglobulin fragments; and

5 Figure 9 illustrates Slot-Blot for protein L, G and LG with IgG, Ig γ and Ig Fc.

10 The amino acid and nucleic acid sequence of the light-chain binding domains of protein L is illustrated in Claims 1 and 2 respectively.

It will be observed that the drawings are not to scale.

Example 1

15 Cloning and expression of the IgG-light-chain-binding domains in Protein L

20 construction of synthetic oligonucleotides (primers) for amplifying sequences coded for protein L, domain B1-B4

It has been found that a protein L peptide (expressed in E. coli) constructed of the sequence ala-val-glu-asn-domain B1 (from protein L) binds to the light chains of 25 the immunoglobulins (W. Kastern, U. Sjöbring and L. Björck. 1992. Structure of peptostreptococcal protein L and identification of a repeated immunoglobulin light chain-binding domain. J. Biol. Chem. in-print). Since this simple protein L-domain has a relatively low affinity to Ig, ($1 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$), and since the naturally occurring protein L which is constructed of several mutually 30 similar domains (B1-B5) has a high affinity to Ig ($1 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$), four of these domains have been expressed together in the following way:

PL-N and PL-C1 are synthetic oligonucleotides (manufactured by the Biomolecular Unit at Lund University (Sweden) in accordance with Applicant's instructions) which have been used to amplify a clonable gene fragment which is amplified with PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) and which codes for four Ig-binding protein L domains (ala-val-glu-asn-B1-B2-B3-B4-lys-lys-val-asp-glu-lys-pro-glu-glu). Amino acids in the protein L-sequence are given for the primer which corresponds to the coded strand (PL-N):

PL-N: 5'-GCTCAGGCGGCCGGTAGAAAATAAAGAAGAACACCAGAAC-3'
valgluasnlysglugluthrproglu

15 5'-end of this oligonucleotide is homologous with the coded strand in the protein L-gene (emphasized): those codons which code for the last three amino acids in the A-domain (val-glu-asn) are followed by the codons for 20 the first six amino acids in the first of the Ig-binding domains in protein L (B1).

PL-C1: 5'-CAGCAGCAGGATTCTTATTATTCTTCTGGTTTTCGTCAACTTT
CTT-3'

25 This oligonucleotide is homologous with the opposing non-coding strand in the gene for protein L (the sequence corresponds to the first nine amino acids in domain B5).

30 DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of PL-N contain the recognition sequence for the restriction enzyme **HpaII** (emphasized) immediately before the codon which is considered to code for the first amino 35 acid (val) in the expressed protein L-fragment. The fragment which is cleaved with **HpaII** can be ligated with

DNA (in this case, consisting of the used expression vector pHD389) which has been cleaved with the restriction enzyme NarI. The DNA-fragment that has been cleaved with HpaII and ligated with vector pHD389, which has been cleaved with NarI, will be translated in the correct reading frame. The construction results in translation of an additional amino acid (ala) immediately in front of the first amino acid in protein L.

10 DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of PL-C1 will contain the recognition sequence for the restriction enzyme BamHI (overlined above the sequence) immediately after the sequence which codes for the last amino acid in the expressed protein L-fragment (glu).
15 The vector pHD389 contains a unique recognition sequence for BamHI as part of its so-called multiple cloning sequence which follows the NarI recognition sequence. DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of PL-C1 will include two so-called stop-codons (emphasized) which results in translation of the fragment inserted in the vector to cease.

20 The sequence which was considered to be amplified contains no internal recognition sequences for the restriction enzymes HpaII or BamHI.
25

Amplifying and cloning procedures

30 (PCR) (Polymerase Chain Reaction) was effected with a protocol described by Saiki, R.D. Gelfand, S. Stoffel, S. Scharf, R. Higuchi, G. Horn, K. Mullis and H. Erlich, 1988; Primer-directed enzymatic amplification of DNA with a thermostable DNA polymerase. Science 239: 487-49127; PCR was effected in a Hybaid Intelligent Heating-block (Teddington, UK): 100 µl of a reaction mixture contained 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 1.5 mM

$MgCl_2$, 100 μ ml gelatine, 300 μ M with respect to each of the deoxynucleotides (dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP), (Pharmacia), 20 pmol of each of the oligonucleotides PL-N and PL-C1, 10 μ l of a target (template) DNA-solution containing 0.1 mg/ml of chromosomal DNA from Pepto-streptococcus magnus, species 312. The mixture was covered with mineral oil (Sigma) and DNA't was denatured by heating to 98°C for 10 minutes. 2.5 units of AmpliTaq (Perkin Elmer Cetus, Norwalk, CT) were added and PCR was then carried out with 25 cycles consisting of a denaturing step at 94°C for 1 minute, followed by a hybridizing step at 56°C for 1 minute, and finally by an extension step at 72°C for 1 minute. Amplified DNA was analyzed by electrophoresis in agarose gel. The amplified DNA't was cleaved with the restriction enzymes HpaII (Promega), (8 units/ μ g amplified DNA) and BamHI (Promega), (10 units/ μ g amplified DNA) at 37°C. The thus amplified and subsequently cleaved DNA-product was isolated by electrophoresis in a 2% (weight by volume) agarose gel (NuSieve agarose, FMC Biproducts) in a TAE-buffer (40 Mm Tris, 20 Mm Na-acetate, 2 Mm EDTA, Ph 8.0). The resulting 930 base-pair large fragment was cut from the gel. The DNA concentration in this removed gel-piece was estimated to be 0.05 mg/ml. The agarose-piece containing the cleaved, amplified fragment was melted in a water bath at 65°C, whereafter the fragment was allowed to cool to 37°C. 10 μ l (0.5 μ g) of this DNA was transferred to a semimicrotube (Sarstedt) preheated to 37°C, whereafter 1 μ l of the vector pHD389 was immediately added and cleaved with NarI (Promega) and BamHI, 1 μ l 10xligas-buffer (Promega and 1 μ l T4 DNA-ligase (Promega; 1 unit/ μ l). The ligating reaction was then used to transform E. coli, strain LE392, which had been competent in accordance with the rubidium/calcium-chloride-method as described by Kushner (1978). Molecular biological standard methods have been used in the manipulation

of DNA (Sambrook, J.E. Fritsch and T. Maniatis, 1989. Molecular cloning: A laboratory manual. 2nd Ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories, Cold Spring Harbor, N w York, USA). The cleaving and ligating conditions recommended by the manufacturer of DNA-ligase and restriction enzymes have been followed in other respects.

Expression system

The vector pHD389 (see Figure 2) is a modified variant of the plasmid pHD313 (Dalbøge, H.E. Bech Jensen, H. Töttrup, A. Grubb, M. Abrahamson, I. Olafsson and S. Carlsen, 1989. High-level expression of active human cystatin C in Escherichia coli. Gene, 79: 325-332). The vector, which is replicated in E. coli (contains ori = origin of replication from plasmid pUC19) is constructed so that DNA-fragments which have been cloned into the cleaving site of NarI will be transcribed and translated downstream of and in the immediate vicinity of the signal peptide (21 amino acids), from envelope-protein ompA from E. coli. Translation will be initiated from the codon ATG which codes for the first amino acid (methionine) in the signal peptide. This construction permits the translated peptide to be transported to the periplasmic space in E. coli. This is advantageous, since it reduces the risk of degradation of the desired product of enzymes occurring intracellularly in E. coli. Moreover, it is easier to purify peptides which have been exported to the periplasic space. Unique recognition sequences (multiple cloning sequences) for several other restriction enzymes, among them ecori, SalI and BamHI are found immediately after the NarI cleaving site. An optimized so-called Shine-Dalgarno-sequence (also called ribosomal binding site, RBS) is found seven nucleotides upstream from the ATG-codon in the signal sequence from ompA, this optimized sequence binding to a

complementary sequence in 16S rRNA in the ribosomes and is responsible for the translation being initiated in the correct place. The transcription of such DNA as that which is co-transcribed with the signal sequence for 5 ompA is controlled by the P_R -promotor from coliphage λ . The vector also contained the gene for cI857 from coliphage λ whose product down-regulates transcription from P_R (and whose product is expressed constitutively). This cI857-mediated down-regulation of transcription from P_R 10 is heat-sensitive. The transcription regulated from this promotor is terminated with the aid of a so-called rho-independent transcription terminating sequence (forms a structure in DNA't which results in the DNA-dependent RNA-polymerase leaving the DNA-strand) which is placed 15 in the vector immediately downstream of the multiple cloning sequence. The plasmid also carries the β -lactamase gene (from the plasmid pUC19) whose product permits ampicillin-selection of E. coli clones that have been transformed by the vector.

20

Selection of protein L-producing clones

The transformed bacteria are cultivated, or cultured, on culture plates with an LB-medium which also contained 25 ampicillin in a concentration of 100 μ g/ml. Cultivation of the bacteria progressed overnight at 30°C, whereafter the bacteria were transferred to an incubator where they were cultivated for a further 4 hours at 42°C. The plates were kept in a refrigerator overnight. On the 30 next day, the colonies were transferred to nitrocellulose filters. Filters and culture plates were marked so as to enable the transferred colonies to be readily identified on respective culture plates. The culture plates were again incubated overnight at 30°C, so that 35 remaining rests of transferred bacteria colonies could again grow. The plates were then kept in a refrigerator.

The bacteria in the colonies on the nitrocellulose-impressions were lysed by incubating the filter in 10% SDS for 10 minutes. Filters containing lysed bacteria were then rinsed with a blocking buffer which comprised 5 PBS (pH 7.2) with 0.25% gelatine and 0.25% Tween-20 (four baths, 250 ml each at 37°C), whereafter the filter was incubated with radioactively marked (marked with ¹²⁵I in accordance with the chloramin-T-method) Ig- κ -chains (20 ng/ml in PBS with 0.1% gelatine). The incubation took place at room temperature over a period of 3 10 hours, whereafter non-bound radioactively marked protein was rinsed-off with PBS (pH 7.2) containing 0.5 M NaCl, 0.25% gelatine and 0.25% Tween-20 (four baths, 250 ml each at room temperature). All filters 15 were exposed to X-ray film. Positive colonies were identified on the original culture plate. Clones which reacted with Ig- κ -chains were selected and analyzed with respect to the size on the DNA-fragment introduced in the vector. One of these clones was selected for the 20 production of protein L, pHDL. The DNA't introduced from this clone into plasmid pHDL389 was sequenced. The DNA-sequence was found to be in full agreement with corresponding sequences (B1-B4 and 21 bases in B5) in the gene for protein L from Peptostreptococcus magnus, 25 strain 312. The size and binding properties of the protein produced by clone pHDL was analyzed with the aid of SDS-PAGE (see Figure 8), dot-blot experiment (see Figure 9) and competitive binding experiments.

30 **Production of protein L**

Several colonies from a culture plate with E. coli pHDL 35 were used to inoculate a preculture (LB-medium with an addition of 100 mg/l ampicillin), which was cultured at 28°C overnight. On the following morning, the preculture was transferred to a larger volume (100 times the volume

of the preculture) of fresh LB-medium containing ampicillin (100 mg/l) and was cultured in shake-flasks (200 rpm), (or fermentors) at 28°C. The culture temperature was raised to 40°C (induction of transcription) when the 5 absorbency value at 620 nm reached 0.5. Cultivation then continued for 4 hours (applied solely to cultivation in shake-flasks). Upon completion of the cultivation process, the bacteria were centrifuged down. The bacteria were then lysed with an osmotic shock method at 4°C 10 (Dalbøge et al., 1989 *supra*). The lysate was adjusted to a pH = 7. Remaining bacteria rests were then centrifuged down, whereafter the supernatent was purified on IgG-sepharose in accordance with earlier described protocol 15 for protein G and protein L (U. Sjöbring, L. Björck and W. Kastern. 1991. Streptococcal protein G: Gene structure and protein binding properties. *J. Biol. Chem.* 266: 399-405; W. Kastern, U. Sjöbring and L. Björck. 1992. Structure of peptostreptococcal protein L and identification of a repeated immunoglobulin light chain-binding 20 domain. *J. Biol. Chem.* in-print.

The expression system gave about 20 mg/l of protein L when cultivation in shake-flasks. The culture was deposited at DSSM, Identification Reference DSSM E. coli 25 LE392/pHDL.

Example 2

Cloning and expression of protein LG

5 Construction of oligonucleotides (primers) for amplifying sequences which code for protein LG

Protein L

10 It has been found that a protein L-peptide (expressed in
E. coli) constructed of the sequence ala-val-glu-asn-
domain B1 (from protein L) will bind to the light chains
of the immunoglobulins (Kastern, Sjöbring and Björck,
1992, J. Biol. Chem. in-print). Since the affinity of
15 this simple domain to Ig is relatively low ($1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}^{-1}$) and since the naturally occurring protein L, which is
comprised of several mutually similar domains (B1-B5)
has a higher affinity to Ig ($1 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$), four of
20 these domains have been expressed together in the fol-
lowing way:

PL-N and PL-C2 are synthetic oligonucleotides (manufactured at the Biomolecular Unit at Lund University (Sweden) in accordance with Applicant's instructions) which were used, with the aid of PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) to amplify a clonable gene fragment, called B1-4, which codes for four Ig-binding protein L domains (ala-val-glu-asn-B1-B2-B3-B4-lys-lys-val-asp-glu-lys-pro-glu-glu):

30 PL-N: 5'-GCTCAGGCGGCGCCGGTAGAAAATAAAGAAGAACACCAGAAC-3'
valgluasnlysqluqluthrproglu

P1-C2: 5'-CAGCAGCAGCCATGGGTTCTTCTGGTTTCGTCAACTTCTTA- 3'

Amino acids have been shown under corresponding triplets in the coded strand. DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of PL-N contain the r cognition sequence for the restriction enzyme **HpaII** immediately upstream of the triplet which codes for the first amino acid (val) in the expressed protein L-fragment. The fragment that has been cleaved with **HpaII** can be ligated with DNA (in this case, the used expression vector pHD389) which has been cleaved with **NarI**. The construction results in translation of an extra amino acid (ala) immediately upstream of the first amino acid in the protein L-fragment. The DNA-fragment that has been amplified with the aid of PL-C2 will contain the recognition sequence for the restriction enzyme **NcoI** (emphasized) immediately downstream of the sequence which codes for the last amino acid in the expressed protein L-fragment (glu). Amplified fragments which have been cleaved with **NcoI** can be ligated to the **NcoI**-cleaved, PCR-generated protein-asp-CDC-met-fragment (see below).

20

Protein G

It is known that a simple C-domain from protein G will bind to IgG (B. Guss, M. Eliasson, A. Olsson, M. Uhlen, A.-K. Frej, H. Jörnvall, I. Flock and M. Lindberg. 1986. Structure of the IgG-binding regions of streptococcal protein G. *EMBO. J.* 5: 1567-1575). The strength at which a simple C-domain binds to IgG is relatively low (5 x 10⁷ M⁻¹). A fragment which consists of two C-domains with an intermediate D-region having a length of 15 amino acids, however, has a considerably higher affinity to IgG (1 x 10⁹ M⁻¹). CDC-N and CDC-C are oligonucleotides which have been used as PCR-primers to amplify a clonable DNA-fragment, designated CDC, which

codes for two IgG-binding protein G-domains (pro-met-asp-CDC-met).

CDC-N: GGCCATGGACACTAACAAATTAAATCCTTAATGGT
5 metaspthrtyrlysleuileleuasngly

CDC-C: CAGGTCGACTTATTACATTCAGTTACCGTAAAGGTCTTAGT

10 Amino acids in the resultant sequence have been shown beneath the primer of the coding strand. DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of CDC-N contain the recognition sequence for the restriction enzyme **NcoI** (marked with a line above the sequence). Cleaved amplified fragments can be ligated with the fragment that has 15 been amplified with the aid of **PL-C2** and then cleaved with **NcoI**. The fragment will therewith be translated to the correct reading frame. DNA-fragments which have been amplified with the aid of CDC-C will contain two so-called stop codons (emphasized) which terminate translation. The recognition sequence for the restriction 20 enzyme **SalI** (marked with a line above the sequence) follows immediately afterwards, this sequence also being found in the expression vector pHD389 (see Figure 1).

25 Those sequences which code for the binding properties of protein L (B1-B5) and for protein G (CDC) respectively contain no internal recognition sequences for the restriction enzymes **HpaII**, **SalI** or **NcoI**.

30 **Amplification and cloning procedures**

35 PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) was carried out in accordance with a protocol described by Saiki et al., 1988; PCR was carried out in a Hybaid Intelligent Heating-block (Teddington, UK): 100 μ l of the reaction mixture contained 50 mM KC1, 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 1.5

mM MgCl₂, 100 µg/ml gelatine, 300 µM with respect to each of the deoxynucleotides (dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP), (Pharmacia). In order to amplify sequences which code for the light-chain binding parts of protein L, there 5 were added 20 pmol of each of the oligonucleotides PL-N and PL-C2, and 10 µl of a DNA-solution which contained 0.1 mg/ml of chromosomal DNA from Peptostreptococcus magnus, strain 312. By way of an alternative, 20 pmol were added to each of the oligonucleotide pairs CDC-N 10 and CDC-C and 10 µl of a DNA-solution which contained 0.1 mg/ml of chromosomal DNA from a group C streptococcus strain (Streptococcus equisimilis) called C40 (U. Sjöbring, L. Björck and W. Kastern. 1991. Streptococcal protein G: Gene structure and protein binding 15 properties. J. Biol. Chem. 266: 399-405 or with NcoI and SalI (10 U/µg PCR-product), (for CDC) at 37°C. The thus amplified and subsequently cleaved DNA-fragments were then separated by electrophoresis in a 2% (weight by volume) agarose gel (NuSieve agarose, FMC Bioproducts) in 20 a TAE-buffer (40 mM Tris, 20 mM aNa-cetate, 2 mM EDTA, pH 8.0). The resultant fragments, 930 bp (for B1-4) and 390 bp (for CDC) were cut from the gel. The concentration of DNA in the thus separated gel pieces was estimated to be 0.05 mg/ml. The agarose pieces cut 25 from the gel and containing the cleaved, amplified fragments (B1-4 and CDC) were melted in a water bath at 65°C, whereafter they were allowed to cool to 37°C. 10 µl (0.5 µg) of this DNA were transferred to a semi-microtube (Sarstedt), preheated to 37°C, whereafter 1 µl 30 of the vector pHD389 which had been cleaved with NarI and SalI were added. 1 µl 10 x ligase buffer (Promega) and 1 µl T4 DNA-ligase (1 unit/µl) were also added. The ligating reaction was permitted to take place at 37°C for 6 hours. The cleaving and ligating conditions recommended by the producer of DNA-ligase and restriction 35 enzymes (Promega) were followed in other respects. The

ligating reaction was then used to transform E. coli, strain LE392, which had been made competent in accordance with the rubidium-chloride/calcium-dichloride method as described by Kushner (1978). Manipulation of 5 DNA was effected in accordance with molecular biological standard methods (Sambrook et al., 1989).

Expression system

10 The vector pHD389 (see Figure 2) is a modified variant of the plasmid pHD313 (Dalb  ge et al., 1989). The vector which was replicated in E. coli (contains origin of replication from plasmid pUC19) is constructed such that DNA-fragments which have been cloned in the cleaving 15 site for NarI will be expressed immediately after, or downstream, of the signal peptide (21 amino acids) from the envelope protein ompA from E. coli. Translation will be initiated from the ATG-codon which codes for the first amino acid (methionine) in the signal peptide. The 20 construction with an E. coli-individual signal sequence which precedes the desired peptide enables the translated peptide to be transported to the periplasmic space in E. coli. This is beneficial since it reduces the risk of degradation of the desired product through the intracellular occurring enzymes of E. coli. Furthermore, it is 25 easier to purify peptides which have been exported to the periplasmatic space. Unique recognition sequences (multiple cloning sequences) for several other restriction enzymes, among them EcoRI, Sall and BamHI are present immediately downstream of the NarI cleaving 30 site. An optimized so-called Shine-Dalgarno sequence (also called ribosomal binding site, RBS) is found seven nucleotides upstream of the ATG-codon in the signal sequence from ompA, this optimized Shine-Dalgarno 35 sequence binding to a complementary sequence in 16S rRNA in the ribosomes and in a manner to decide that th

translation is initiated in the correct place. The transcription of such DNA as that which is co-transcribed with the signal sequence for *ompA* is controlled by the P_R -promotor from coliphage λ . The vector also 5 contains the gene for *cI857* from coliphage λ , the product of which regulates-down transcription from P_R and the product of which is expressed constitutively. This 10 *cI857*-mediated down-regulation of transcription from P_R is heat-sensitive. Transcription which is regulated, or controlled, from this promotor will be terminated with 15 the aid of a so-called rho-independent transcription terminating sequence which is inserted in the vector immediately downstream of the multiple cloning site. The plasmid also carries the gene for β -lactamase (from the plasmid *pUC19*), the product of which permits ampicillin-selection of *E. coli* clones that have been transformed with the vector.

Selection of protein LG-produced clones

20 The transformed bacteria are cultivated on culture plates with LB-medium which also contained ampicillin in a concentration of 100 μ g/ml. The bacteria were cultivated overnight at 30°C, whereafter they were transferred to a cultivation cabinet (42°C) and cultured for 25 a further four (4) hours. The plates were stored in a refrigerator overnight. On the following day, the colonies were transferred to nitrocellulose filters. The filters and culture plates were marked, so that the 30 transferred colonies could later be identified on the culture plate. The culture plates were again incubated overnight at 30°C, so that rests of transferred bacteria colonies remaining on the plates could again grow. The plates were then stored in a refrigerator. The filter 35 was incubated in 10% SDS for 10 minutes, so as to lyse the bacteria in the colonies on the nitrocellulose

impression. Filters containing lysed bacteria were then rinsed with a blocking buffer consisting of PBS (pH 7.2) with 0.25% gelatine and 0.25% Tween-20 (four baths of 250 ml at 37°C), whereafter the filter was incubated 5 with radioactively (marked with ^{125}I according to the chloromine-T-method) marked Ig- κ -chains (20 ng/ml) in PBS with 0.1% gelatine). The incubation process took place at room temperature for four (4) hours, whereafter non-bound radioactively marked protein was rinsed-off 10 with PBS (pH 7.2) containing 0.5 M NaCl, 0.25% gelatine and 0.25% Tween-20 (four baths, 250 ml each at room temperature). All filters were exposed to X-ray film. Positive colonies on the original culture plate were identified. A number of positive colonies were re- 15 cultivated on new plates and new colony-blot experiments were carried out with these plates as a starting material with the intention of identifying E. coli colonies which bind IgG Fc. These tests were carried out in precisely the same manner as that described above with 20 respect to the identification of E. coli-colonies which expressed Ig light-chain-binding protein, with the exception that a radioactively marked (^{125}I) IgG Fc (20 ng/ml) was used as a probe. Clones which reacted with both proteins were selected and analyzed with regard to 25 the size of the DNA-fragment introduced in the vector. One of these clones was chosen for production of protein LG, pHDLG. The DNA't taken from this clone and introduced into plasmid pHD389 was sequenced. The DNA-se- 30 quence exhibited full agreement with corresponding sequences (B1-B4 and 21 bases in B5) in the gene for protein L from Peptostreptococcus magnus, strain 312, and with C1DC2 sequence in group C streptococcus strain C40. The size and binding properties of the protein produced from clone pHDLG was analyzed with the aid of 35 SDS-PAGE (see Figure 8), dot-blot experiment (see Figure 10) and competitive binding experiments.

Production of protein LG

Several colonies from a culture plate with *E. coli* pHDLG were used to inoculate a preculture (LB-medium with an 5 addition of 100 mg/l ampicillin) were cultivated at 28°C overnight. In the morning, the preculture was transferred to a larger volume (100 times the volume of the preculture) of fresh LB-medium containing ampicillin (100 mg/l) and was cultivated in vibrating flasks (200 10 rpm), (or fermenters) at 28°C. When an absorbence value of 0.5 was reached at 620 nm, the cultivation temperature was raised to 40°C (induction of transcription). The cultivation process was then continued for 4 hours (applies only to cultivation in vibrated flasks). The 15 bacteria were centrifuged down upon termination of the cultivation process. The bacteria were then lysed at 4°C in accordance with an osmotic shock method (Dalbøge et al., 1989). The lysate was adjusted to a pH of 7. Remaining bacteria rests were centrifuged down and the 20 supernatent then purified on IgG-sepharose, in accordance with the protocol earlier described with reference to protein G and protein L. (Sjöbring et al., 1991, Kastern et al., 1992).

25 The expression system gave about 30 mg/l of protein LG when cultivation in vibrated flasks. A deposition has been made at DSSM, Identification Reference DSSM *E. coli* LE392/pHDLG.

30 Example 3

Analysis of the binding properties of protein LG

Western Blot

35

Protein G (the C1DC2-fragment), protein L (four B-

domains) and protein LG were isolated with SDS-PAGE (10% acrylamide concentration). The isolated proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose membranes in three similar copies (triplicate). Each of these membranes was incubated with radioactively marked proteins (20 ng/ml: one of the membrane-copies was incubated with human polyclonal IgG, another with human IgG Fc-fragment and the third with isolated human IgG χ chains. Non-bound radioactively marked proteins were rinsed off and all filters were then exposed to X-ray film.

slot-blot

Human polyclonal Ig-preparations and Ig-fragments were applied with the aid of a slot-blot appliances on nitrocellulose filters in given quantities (see Figure 10) on three similar copies. Each of these membranes was incubated with radioactively marked proteins (20 ng/ml). One of the membrane copies was incubated with protein LG, another with protein L and the third with protein G. Non-bound radioactively marked proteins were rinsed-off and all filters were then exposed to X-ray film.

The results are shown in Figures 9 and 10.

Other binding experiments have been carried out, with the following results:

TABLE

Binding of the proteins G, L and LG to immunoglobulins.

Binding protein:	G	K _a	L	K _a	LG	K _a
Immunoglobulin						
Human:						
Polyclonal IgG*	+	67 (10)	+	9.0	+	20
IgG subclasses						
IgG ₁	+	2.0	+		+	
IgG ₂	+	3.1	+		+	
IgG ₃	+	6.1	+		+	
IgG ₄	+	4.7	+		+	
IgG fragment						
Fc*		+	6.0 (0.5)	-		+
F(ab') ₂ *	+	0.4 (0.2)	+		+	
kappa	-		+	1.5	+	
lambda	-		(-) [#]			
Other Ig-classes						
IgM	-		+	11.6	+	
IgA	-		+	10.4	+	
IgE	-		+		+	
IgD	-					
Other Species:						
Polyclonal						
Monkey	+		+		+	
Rabbit	IgG	+	70	+	0.074	+
	IgG-Fc	+	3.0	-		+
	IgG-F(ab') ₂	+	0.44			+
Mouse		+	41	+	2.6	+
Rat		+	1.5	+	0.39	+
Goat		+	14	-		+

TABLE (cont'd.)

Binding of the proteins G, L and LG to immunoglobulins.

Binding protein:	G	K _a	L	K _a	LG	K _a
Immunoglobulin						
Bovine	IgG ₁	+	3	-	-	+
	IgG ₂	+	2	-	-	+
Horse		+		-	-	+
Guinea Pig		+		+	-	+
Sheep		+		-	-	+
Dog		+		-	-	+
Pig		+		+	-	+
Hamster		+				
Cat		-		-		
Hen		-		-		
Monoclona ls &						
Mouse						
IgG ₁		+		+	-	+
IgG _{2a}		+		+	-	+
IgG _{2b}		+				+
IgG ₃		+				+
IgM		-		+	-	+
IgA		-		+	-	+
Rat						
IgG _{2a}		+		+	-	+
IgG _{2b}		+				+
IgG _{2c}		+				+

K_a = affinity constant (M^{-1}). * The numerals within parenthesis disclose the affinity of a recombinant protein G comprised of two IgG-binding domains. # A weak bond to lambda chains exists. & Binding to P1 and PLG depends on the type of light chain of Ig.

It will thus be seen that the synthesized hybrid protein LG has a broad binding activity/specifity.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT:

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- (I) TELEX: 32637 Active S

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Hybridprotein

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 1

(iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

- (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
- (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
- (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
- (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25

(EPO)

(v) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:

APPLICATION NUMBER: SE PCT/SE93/00375

(vi) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

- (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: SE 9201331-7
- (B) FILING DATE: 28-APR-1992

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 305 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: unknown
- (D) TOPOLOGY: unknown

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (A) ORGANISM: Escherichia coli LE392/pHDL, DSM 7054

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

Ala	Val	Glu	Asn	Lys	Glu	Glu	Thr	Pro	Glu	Thr	Pro	Glu	Thr	Asp	Ser
1					5				10				15		

Glu	Glu	Glu	Val	Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala	Asn	Leu	Ile	Phe	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ser
					20				25				30		

Thr	Gln	Thr	Ala	Glu	Phe	Lys	Gly	Thr	Phe	Glu	Lys	Ala	Thr	Ser	Glu
						35		40				45			

Ala Tyr Ala Tyr Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr
 50 55 60

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
 65 70 75 80

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
 85 90 95

Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
 100 105 110

Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Ala Leu
 115 120 125

Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr
 130 135 140

Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro
 145 150 155 160

Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys
 165 170 175

Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu
 180 185 190

Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr
 195 200 205

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
 210 215 220

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
 225 230 235 240

Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
 245 250 255

Thr Phe Ala Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu
 260 265 270

Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr Ala Asp Leu Glu Asp Gly Gly Tyr
 275 280 285

Thr Ile Asn Ile Arg Phe Ala Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Glu Lys Pro Glu
 290 295 300

Glu
 305

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 921 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
- (D) TOPOLOGY: unknown

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

(A) ORGANISM: Escherichia coli LE392/pHDL, DSM 7054

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 2:

GCGGTAGAAA	ATAAAGAAGA	AACACCAGAA	ACACCAGAAA	CTGATTCAGA	50
AGAAGAAGTA	ACAATCAAAG	CTAACCTAAT	CTTTGCAAAT	GGAAGCACAC	100
AAACTGCAGA	ATTCAAAGGA	ACATTTGAAA	AAGCAACATC	AGAAGCTTAT	150
GCGTATGCAG	ATACTTGAA	GAAAGACAAT	GGAGAATATA	CTGTAGATGT	200
TGCAGATAAA	GGTTATACTT	TAAATATTAA	ATTTGCTGGA	AAAGAAAAAA	250
CACCAGAAGA	ACCAAAAGAA	GAAGTTACTA	TTAAAGCAAA	CTTAATCTAT	300
GCAGATGGAA	AAACACAAAC	AGCAGAATT	AAAGGAACAT	TTGAAGAAGC	350
AACAGCAGAA	GCATACAGAT	ATGCAGATGC	ATTAAAGAAG	GACAATGGAG	400
AATATACAGT	AGACGTTGCA	GATAAAGGTT	ATACTTTAAA	TATTAATTT	450
GCTGGAAAAG	AAAAAACACC	AGAAGAACCA	AAAGAAGAAG	TTACTATTAA	500
AGCAAACTTA	ATCTATGCAG	ATGGAAAAAC	ACAAACAGCA	GAATTCAAAG	550
GAACATTGAA	AGAAGCAACA	GCAGAACAT	ACAGATATGC	TGACTTATTA	600
GCAAAAGAAA	ATGGTAAATA	TACAGTAGAC	GTTGCAGATA	AAGGTTATAC	650
TTTAAATATT	AAATTTGCTG	GAAAAGAAAA	AACACCAGAA	GAACCAAAAG	700
AAGAAGTTAC	TATTAAGCA	AACTTAATCT	ATGCAGATGG	AAAAACTCAA	750
ACAGCAGAGT	TCAAAGGAAC	ATTTGCAGAA	GCAACAGCAG	AAGCATAACAG	800
ATACGCTGAC	TTATTAGCAA	AAGAAAATGG	TAAATATACA	GCAGACTTAG	850
AAGATGGTGG	ATACACTATT	AATATTAGAT	TTGCAGGTAA	GAAAGTTGAC	900
GAAAAACCAG	AAGAATAATA	A			921

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 434 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: unknown
- (D) TOPOLOGY: unknown

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

(A) ORGANISM: Escherichia coli LE392/pHDLG, DSM 7055

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 3:

Ala Val Glu Asn Lys Glu Glu Thr Pro Glu Thr Pro Glu Thr Asp Ser
1 5 10 15

Glu Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala Asn Leu Ile Phe Ala Asn Gly Ser
20 25 30

Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly Thr Phe Glu Lys Ala Thr Ser Glu
35 40 45

Ala Tyr Ala Tyr Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr
50 55 60

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
65 70 75 80

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
85 90 95

Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
100 105 110

Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Ala Leu
115 120 125

Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr
130 135 140

Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro
145 150 155 160

Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys
165 170 175

Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu
180 185 190

Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr
195 200 205

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
210 215 220

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
225 230 235 240

Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
245 250 255

Thr Phe Ala Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu
260 265 270

Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr Ala Asp Leu Glu Asp Gly Gly Tyr
 275 280 285

Thr Ile Asn Ile Arg Ph Ala Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Glu Lys Pro Glu
 290 295 300

Glu Pro Met Asp Thr Tyr Lys Leu Ile Leu Asn Gly Lys Thr Leu Lys
 305 310 315 320

Gly Glu Thr Thr Glu Ala Val Asp Ala Ala Thr Ala Glu Lys Val
 325 330 335

Phe Lys Gln Tyr Ala Asn Asp Asn Gly Val Asp Gly Glu Trp Thr Tyr
 340 345 350

Asp Asp Ala Thr Lys Thr Phe Thr Val Thr Glu Lys Pro Glu Val Ile
 355 360 365

Asp Ala Ser Glu Leu Thr Pro Ala Val Thr Thr Tyr Lys Leu Val Ile
 370 375 380

Asn Gly Lys Thr Leu Lys Gly Glu Thr Thr Lys Ala Val Asp Ala
 385 390 395 400

Glu Thr Ala Glu Lys Ala Phe Lys Gln Tyr Ala Asn Asp Asn Gly Val
 405 410 415

Asp Gly Val Trp Thr Tyr Asp Asp Ala Thr Lys Thr Phe Thr Val Thr
 420 425 430

Glu Met

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 4:

(i) **SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

- (A) LENGTH: 1308 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
- (D) TOPOLOGY: unknown

(ii) **MOLECULE TYPE:** DNA (genomic)

(iii) **HYPOTHETICAL:** NO

(vi) **ORIGINAL SOURCE:**

- (A) **ORGANISM:** Escherichia coli L392/pHDLG, DSM 7055

(xi) **SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION:** SEQ ID NO: 4:

GC GG TAGAAA ATA AAGAAGA AAC ACCAGAA AC ACCAGAAA	CTG ATT CAGA	50
AGA AGAAGTA ACA ATCAAAG CTA ACCTAAT	CTT TGCAAAT GGA AGC ACAC	100
AA ACTGCAGA ATT CAAAGGA AC ATT GAAA AAG CAACATC	AGA AGCTTAT	150
GC GTATGCAG AT ACT TTGAA GAA AGACAAT	GG AGAATATA CT GTAGATGT	200

TGCAGATAAA GGTTATACTT TAAATATTAA ATTTGCTGGA AAAGAAAAAA	250
CACCAGAAGA ACCAAAAGAA GAAGTTACTA TTAAAGCAAA CTTAATCTAT	300
GCAGATGGAA AAACACAAAC AGCAGAATTG AAAGGAACAT TTGAAGAACG	350
AACAGCAGAA GCATACAGAT ATGCAGATGC ATTAAAGAAG GACAATGGAG	400
AATATACAGT AGACGTTGCA GATAAAGGTT ATACTTTAAA TATTAAATTT	450
GCTGGAAAAG AAAAAACACC AGAAGAACCA AAAGAAGAACG TTACTATTAA	500
AGCAAACTTA ATCTATGCAG ATGGAAAAAC ACAAAACAGCA GAATTCAAAG	550
GAACATTTGA AGAACAAACA GCAGAACAT ACAGATATGC TGACTTATTAA	600
GCAAAAGAAA ATGGTAAATA TACAGTAGAC GTTGCAGATA AAGGTTATAC	650
TTTAAATATT AAATTTGCTG GAAAAGAAAA AACACCAGAA GAACCAAAAG	700
AAGAAAGTTAC TATTAAAGCA AACTTAATCT ATGCAGATGG AAAAAACTCAA	750
ACAGCAGAGT TCAAAGGAAC ATTTGCAGAA GCAACAGCAG AAGCATAACAG	800
ATACGCTGAC TTATTAGCAA AAGAAAATGG TAAATATACA GCAGACTTAG	850
AAGATGGTGG ATACACTATT AATATTAGAT TTGCAGGTAA GAAAGTTGAC	900
GAAAAACCAG AAGAACCCAT GGACACTTAC AAATTAATCC TTAATGGTAA	950
AACATTGAAA GGCGAAACAA CTACTGAAGC TGTTGATGCT GCTACTGCAG	1000
AAAAAGTCTT CAAACAATAC GCTAACGACA ACGGTGTTGA CGGTGAATGG	1050
ACTTACGACG ATGCGACTAA GACCTTTACA GTTACTGAAA AACCCAGAAGT	1100
GATCGATGCG TCTGAATTAA CACCAGCCGT GACAACTTAC AAAACTGTTA	1150
TTAATGGTAA AACATTGAAA GGCGAAACAA CTACTAAAGC AGTAGACGCA	1200
GAAACTGCAG AAAAAAGCCTT CAAACAATAC GCTAACGACA ACGGTGTTGA	1250
TGGTGTGTTGG ACTTATGATG ATGCGACTAA GACCTTTACG GTAACTGAAA	1300
TGTAATAA	1308

Claims

1. Protein L having the ability to bind to the light
 chains of immunoglobulins, characterized
 5 in that the protein L has the following amino acid
 sequence:

— B1

Ala	Val	Glu	Asn	Lys	Glu	Glu	Thr	Pro	Glu	Thr	Pro	Glu	Thr	Asp	Ser																	
1				5				10						15																		
Glu								Glu								Val		Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala	Asn	Leu	Ile	Phe	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ser			
																20				25							30					
																Thr		Gln	Thr	Ala	Glu	Phe	Lys	Gly	Thr	Phe	Glu	Lys	Ala	Thr	Ser	Glu
																35				40							45					
																Ala		Tyr	Ala	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Thr	Leu	Lys	Lys	Asp	Asn	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Thr
																50				55							60					
																Val		Asp	Val	Ala	Asp	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Asn	Ile	Lys	Phe	Ala	Gly
																65				70							75		80			
																Lys		Glu	Lys	Thr	Pro	Glu	Glu	Pro	Lys	Glu	Glu	Val	Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala
																85				90							95					
																Asn		Leu	Ile	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Gly	Lys	Thr	Gln	Thr	Ala	Glu	Phe	Lys	Gly
																100				105							110					
																Thr		Phe	Glu	Glu	Ala	Thr	Ala	Glu	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Ala	Leu
																115				120							125					
																Lys		Lys	Asp	Asn	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Thr	Val	Asp	Val	Ala	Asp	Lys	Gly	Tyr
																130				135							140					
																Thr		Leu	Asn	Ile	Lys	Phe	Ala	Gly	Lys	Glu	Lys	Thr	Pro	Glu	Glu	Pro
																145				150							155		160			
																Lys		Glu	Glu	Val	Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala	Asn	Leu	Ile	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Gly	Lys
																165				170							175					
																Thr		Gln	Thr	Ala	Glu	Phe	Lys	Gly	Thr	Phe	Glu	Glu	Ala	Thr	Ala	Glu
																180				185							190					
																Ala		Tyr	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Leu	Leu	Ala	Lys	Glu	Asn	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Thr
																195				200							205					
																Val		Asp	Val	Ala	Asp	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Asn	Ile	Lys	Phe	Ala	Gly
																210				215							220					

— B3

— B4

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
 225 230 235 240

5 Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
 245 250 255

Thr Phe Ala Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu
 260 265 270

Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr Ala Asp Leu Glu Asp Gly Gly Tyr
 10 275 280 — B5 285

Thr Ile Asn Ile Arg Phe Ala Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Glu Lys Pro Glu
 290 295 300

Glu

15 and variants, subfragments, multiples or mixtures of the domains B1-B5 having the same binding properties.

20 2. DNA-sequence, characterized in that it codes for the protein according to Claim 1 and has the following nucleotide sequence:

25	GCG GTA GAA AAT AAA GAA GAA ACA CCA GAA ACA CCA GAA ACT GAT TCA	48
	GAA GAA GAA GTA ACA ATC AAA GCT AAC CTA ATC TTT GCA AAT GGA AGC	96
	ACA CAA ACT GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA ACA TTT GAA AAA GCA ACA TCA GAA	144
	GCT TAT GCG TAT GCA GAT ACT TTG AAG AAA GAC AAT GGA GAA TAT ACT	192
30	GTA GAT GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA	240
	AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA CCA AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA	288
	AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA ACA CAA ACA GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA	336
	ACA TTT GAA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA GCA TAC AGA TAT GCA GAT GCA TTA	384
35	AAG AAG GAC AAT GGA GAA TAT ACA GTA GAC GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT	432
	ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA GAA CCA	480
	AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA	528

ACA CAA ACA GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA ACA TTT GAA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA 576
GCA TAC AGA TAT GCT GAC TTA TTA GCA AAA GAA AAT GGT AAA TAT ACA 624
5 GTA GAC GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA 672
AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA GAA CCA AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA 720
AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA ACT CAA ACA GCA GAG TTC AAA GGA 768
10 ACA TTT GCA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA GCA TAC AGA TAC GCT GAC TTA TTA 816
GCA AAA GAA AAT GGT AAA TAT ACA GCA GAC TTA GAA GAT GGT GGA TAC 864
ACT ATT AAT ATT AGA TTT GCA GGT AAG AAA GTT GAC GAA AAA CCA GAA 912
15 GAA TAATAA 921

3. A hybrid protein, characterized in
that it includes one or more of the B1-B5-domains ac-
20 cording to Claim 1 which bind to the light chains in
immunoglobulins of all classes, and domains which bind
to heavy chains in immunoglobulin G.

4. A hybrid protein according to Claim 3, char-
acterized in that the domains which bind to
heavy chains in immunoglobulin G are chosen from among
the C1- and C2-domains in protein G or from among any
other functionally similar proteins which bind to heavy
chains in immunoglobulin G, and variants, subfragments,
30 multiples or mixtures thereof having the same binding
properties.

5. A hybrid protein according to Claim 4, char-
acterized in that the hybrid protein has the
35 following amino acid sequence:

Ala Val Glu Asn Lys Glu Glu Thr Pro Glu Thr Pro Glu Thr Asp Ser
 1 5 10 15

5 Glu Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala Asn Leu Ile Phe Ala Asn Gly Ser
 20 25 30

Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly Thr Phe Glu Lys Ala Thr Ser Glu
 35 40 45

10 Ala Tyr Ala Tyr Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr
 50 55 60

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
 65 70 75 80

15 Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
 85 90 95

Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
 100 105 110

Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Ala Leu
 115 120 125

20 Lys Lys Asp Asn Gly Glu Tyr Thr Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr
 130 135 140

Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro
 145 150 155 160

25 Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys
 165 170 175

Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly Thr Phe Glu Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu
 180 185 190

30 Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr
 195 200 205

Val Asp Val Ala Asp Lys Gly Tyr Thr Leu Asn Ile Lys Phe Ala Gly
 210 215 220

Lys Glu Lys Thr Pro Glu Glu Pro Lys Glu Glu Val Thr Ile Lys Ala
 225 230 235 240

35 Asn Leu Ile Tyr Ala Asp Gly Lys Thr Gln Thr Ala Glu Phe Lys Gly
 245 250 255

Thr Phe Ala Glu Ala Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Asp Leu Leu
 260 265 270
 5 Ala Lys Glu Asn Gly Lys Tyr Thr Ala Asp Leu Glu Asp Gly Gly Tyr
 275 280 285
 Thr Ile Asn Ile Arg Phe Ala Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Glu Lys Pro Glu
 290 295 300
 10 Glu Pro Met Asp Thr Tyr Lys Leu Ile Leu Asn Gly Lys Thr Leu Lys
 305 310 315 320
 Gly Glu Thr Thr Glu Ala Val Asp Ala Ala Thr Ala Glu Lys Val
 325 330 335
 Phe Lys Gln Tyr Ala Asn Asp Asn Gly Val Asp Gly Glu Trp Thr Tyr
 15 340 345 350
 Asp Asp Ala Thr Lys Thr Phe Thr Val Thr Glu Lys Pro Glu Val Ile
 355 360 365
 Asp Ala Ser Glu Leu Thr Pro Ala Val Thr Tyr Lys Leu Val Ile
 370 375 380
 20 Asn Gly Lys Thr Leu Lys Gly Glu Thr Thr Lys Ala Val Asp Ala
 385 390 395 400
 Glu Thr Ala Glu Lys Ala Phe Lys Gln Tyr Ala Asn Asp Asn Gly Val
 405 410 415
 25 Asp Gly Val Trp Thr Tyr Asp Asp Ala Thr Lys Thr Phe Thr Val Thr
 420 425 430
 Glu Met

30 and variants, subfragments, multiples or mixtures of the domains B1-B5 having the same binding properties.

6. DNA-sequence, characterized in that it codes for a protein according to Claim 5 and has the 35 following nucleotide sequence:

46

GCG GTA GAA AAT AAA GAA GAA ACA CCA GAA ACA CCA GAA ACT GAT TCA 48
 GAA GAA GAA GTA ACA ATC AAA GCT AAC CTA ATC TTT GCA AAT GGA AGC 96
 ACA CAA ACT GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA ACA TTT GAA AAA GCA ACA TCA GAA 134
 GCT TAT GCG TAT GCA GAT ACT TTG AAG AAA GAC AAT GGA GAA TAT ACT 192
 5 GTA GAT GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA 240
 AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA CCA AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA 288
 AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA ACA CAA ACA GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA 336
 10 ACA TTT GAA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA GCA TAC AGA TAT GCA GAT GCA TTA 384
 AAG AAG GAC AAT GGA GAA TAT ACA GTA GAC GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT 432
 ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA GAA CCA 480
 AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA 528
 15 ACA CAA ACA GCA GAA TTC AAA GGA ACA TTT GAA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA 576
 GCA TAC AGA TAT GCT GAC TTA TTA GCA AAA GAA AAT GGT AAA TAT ACA 624
 GTA GAC GTT GCA GAT AAA GGT TAT ACT TTA AAT ATT AAA TTT GCT GGA 672
 20 AAA GAA AAA ACA CCA GAA GAA CCA AAA GAA GAA GTT ACT ATT AAA GCA 720
 AAC TTA ATC TAT GCA GAT GGA AAA ACT CAA ACA GCA GAG TTC AAA GGA 768
 ACA TTT GCA GAA GCA ACA GCA GAA GCA TAC AGA TAC GCT GAC TTA TTA 816
 GCA AAA GAA AAT GGT AAA TAT ACA GCA GAC TTA GAA GAT GGT GGA TAC 864
 25 ACT ATT AAT ATT AGA TTT GCA GGT AAG AAA GTT GAC GAA AAA CCA GAA 912
 GAA CCC ATG GAC ACT TAC AAA TTA ATC CTT AAT GGT AAA ACA TTG AAA 960
 GGC GAA ACA ACT ACT GAA GCT GTT GAT GCT GCT ACT GCA GAA AAA GTC 1008
 30 TTC AAA CAA TAC GCT AAC GAC AAC GGT GTT GAC GGT GAA TGG ACT TAC 1056
 GAC GAT GCG ACT AAG ACC TTT ACA GTT ACT GAA AAA CCA GAA GTG ATC 1104
 GAT GCG TCT GAA TTA ACA CCA GCC GTG ACA ACT TAC AAA CTT GTT ATT 1152
 AAT GGT AAA ACA TTG AAA GGC GAA ACA ACT ACT AAA GCA GTA GAC GCA 1200
 35 GAA ACT GCA GAA AAA GCC TTC AAA CAA TAC GCT AAC GAC AAC GGT GTT 1248
 GAT GGT GTT TGG ACT TAT GAT GAT GCG ACT AAG ACC TTT ACG GTA ACT 1296
 GAA ATG TAATAA 1308

7. DNA-sequence, characterized in that it codes for a protein according to Claim 3 and 4.

5 8. DNA-sequence, characterized in that it hybridizes to the DNA-sequence of Claim 2, 6 or 7 under conventional conditions and codes for a protein which has the same binding properties as the protein according to any one of Claims 1 and 3-5.

10 9. A plasmid vector, characterized in that it includes a DNA-sequence according to any one of Claims 2 and 6-8, preferably the vector pHDLG or pHDL.

15 10. A host cell, characterized in that it is transformed with the hybrid plasmid according to Claim 9, in particular a host which belongs to the species E. coli, particularly E. coli LE392, or Bacillus subtilis, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, preferably Id. Ref. DSSM E. coli LE392 pHDL and E. coli LE392/pHDLG respectively.

25 11. A method for producing a protein according to Claims 1 and 3-5, characterized by cultivating a host cell according to Claim 10 under suitable conditions; accumulating the protein in the culture or lysing the cells and extracting the protein therefrom.

30 12. A reagent apparatus for binding, separating and identifying immunoglobulins, characterized in that it includes a protein according to any one of Claims 1 and 3-5.

35 13. A composition, characterized in that it includes a protein according to any one of Claims 1 and 3-5, and optionally additives or carriers.

14. A pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that it includes a protein according to any one of Claims 1 and 3-5, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or extender.

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AAGCTTAAGGAGGTTAACG ATG AAA AAA ACT GCT ATC GCT ATC GCT GTT
 H A C met

i f RBS 1
 n l a
 3 2 1

GCT CTG GCT GGT TTC GCT ACT GTT GCT CAG GCG GCG CCG AGA TCT
 aIa N B

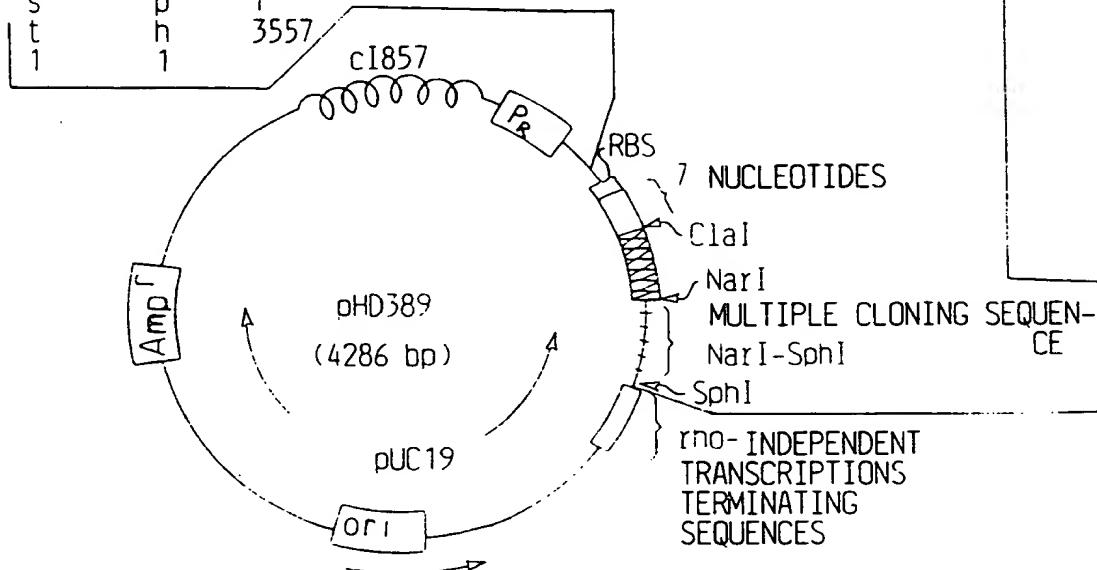
a r 1
 1 2

AAA CAG GAA TTC GAG CTC GGT ACC CGG GGA TCC TCT AGA GTC GAC
 E S K X B X S
 C a p m a b a
 O c h a m a a 1 1
 I 1 1 1 1 1 1

CTG CAG GCA TGC

P S
 S P
 t n
 1 1

3557 cI857



██████ SIGNAL PEPTIDE FOR THE
 SEQUENCE FROM *ompA*

□
 RBS = RIBOSOMAL AGGAGG
 BINDING SEQUENCE

P_R = "RIGHT" PROMOTOR FROM COLIPHAGE λ

cI857 THE GENE FOR A HEAT-SENSITIVE REPRESSOR-PROTEIN FROM COLIPHAGE λ

MULTIPLE CLONING SEQUENCE

NciI
 BglII
 EcoRI
 SacI
 KpnI
 XmaI
 BamHI
 XbaI
 SalI
 PstI
 SphI

}
 UNIQUE
 CLEAVING
 SITES

FIG. 1 PLASMA pHD 389. THE RIBOSOMAL
 BINDING-SEQUENCE (EMPHASIZED WITH
 A FULL LINE), THE SEQUENCE FOR SIGNAL PEPTIDE FROM *ompA*
 (FROM *E.coli*) (DOTTED LINE) AND RECOGNITION SEQUENCE FOR
 SEVERAL RESTRICTION ENZYMES ARE SHOWN.

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PROTEIN LG

B1

60
20

GGGTTAGAAATTAAAGAACACCAAGAACACCCAGAAACACCCAGAAACTGATTTCAGAAGAAGATA
AlaValGluAsnLysGluThrProGluThrProGluThrAspSerGluGluGluVal

ACAATCAAAGCTAACCTAACTCTTGCCTAAATGGAAGCACACAAACTGCAGAATTCAAAGGA
ThrIleLysAlaAsnLeuIlePheAlaAsnGlySerThrGlnThrAlaGluPheLysGly

ACATTGAAAAGCAACATCAGAACGCTTATGCCTGATGCAGATACTTTGAAAGAAAGACAAT
ThrPheGluLysAlaThrSerGluAlaLysAlaAspThrLeuIleLysAspAsn

GGAGAAATACGTGATGTTGCAGATAAGCTTAAAGCTTAACTTTAAATTGCTGCA
GlyGluTyrrThrValAspValAlaAspLysGlyTyrrThrLeuAsnIleLysPheAlaGly

B2

180
60
40

AAAGAAAAAACACCAAGAACAAAGAACATTTGAAAGCTTACTATTAAAGCAAACCTTAATCTAT
LysGluLysThrProGluGluProLysGluGluValThrIleLysAlaAsnLeuIleTyrr

GCAGATGGAAAACACAAACAGCAGAAATTCAAAGGAACATTTGAAAGCAACAGCAGAA
AlaAspGlyLysThrGlnThrAlaGluPheLysGlyThrPheGluGluAlaThrAlaGlu

V V V V V V V V V V V V
 G C A T A C A G A T A T G C A T T A A A G A A G C A A T G G A G A A T A C A G T A G A C G T T G C A
 A l a t y r A r g T y r A l a A s p A l a L e u L y s A s p A s n G l y G l u T y r T h r V a l A s p V a l A l a

→ B3
 GATAAAGGTATACTTTAAATATAATTGCTGGAAAGAAAAACCCAGAAGAACCA
 AspTyrGlyTyrThrLeuAsnIleIysPheAlaG1yLysGluLysThrProGluGluPro

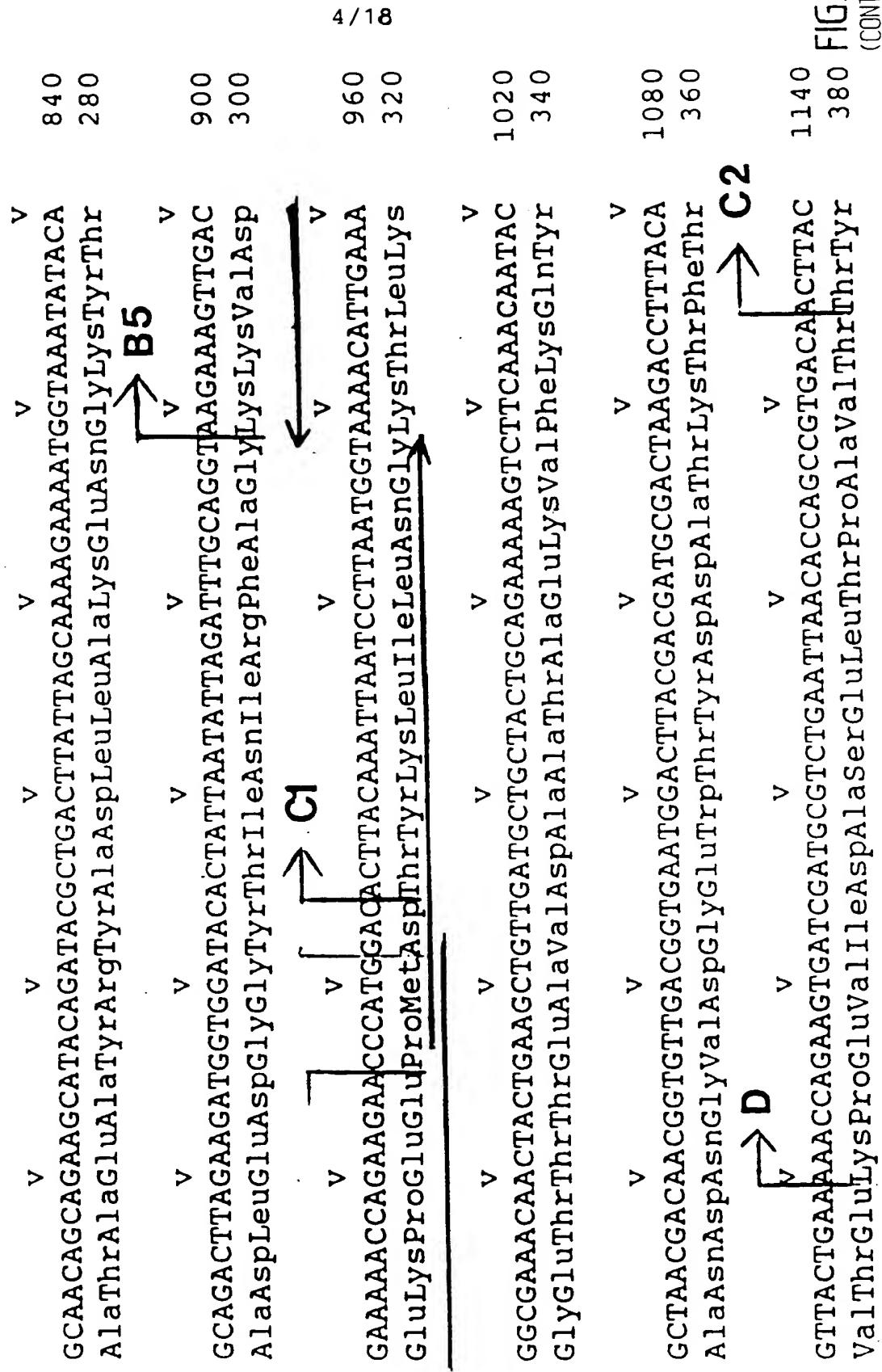
AAAAGAAGTACTATTAAAGCAAACTTAATCTATGCCAGATGGAAAAACACAAACAGCA
 LysGluGluValThrIleLysAlaAsnLeuIleTyrAlaAspGlyLysThrGlnThrAla
 540
 180

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 GAATTCAAAGAACATTGAAAGCAACAGCAGAACAGATAACAGATATGCTGACTTAA
 GluPheLysGlyThrPheGluGluAlaThrAlaGluAlaArgTyrAlaAspLeuLeu
 600
 200

GCAAAAGAAATGGTAAATACTACAGTAGACGTTGCAGATAAAGGTTATACTTAAATTATT
 AlaLysGluAsnGlyLysTrpThrValAspValAlaAspLysGlyTyrThrLeuAsnIle

→ B4
 AAATTTGCTGGAAAGAAAAACCAAGAACCAAGAAACCAAGAAAGAAGTTACTATTAAAGCA
 LysPheAlaGlyLysGluLysThrProGluGluProLysGluGluValThrIleLysAla

AACTTAATCTATGGAAAAAACTCAAACAGCAGACTGlnThrAlaGluAsnLeuIleTyrAlaAspGlyLysThrPheAlaGlu



AAACTTGTATTAAACATTGAAAGCGAAACAACTACTAAAGCAGTACGCCA
LysLeuValIleAsnGlyLysThrLeuLysGlyGlutThrThrLysAlaValAspAla 1200
400

GAAACTGCAGAAAAGCCTCAAACAAATAACGCTAACGACAAACGGTCTGATGGTGTGG
GlutThrAlaGluLysAlaPheLysGlnTyrAlaAsnAspAsnGlyValAspGlyValTrp 1260
420

ACTATGATGCGACTTAAGAACCTTACGGTAACCTGAAATGTAATAA
ThrTyrAspAlaThrLysThrPheThrValThrGluMet - - 1308
434

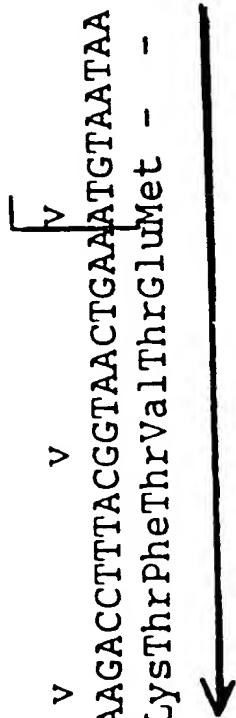


FIG. 2

FIG.3 SCHEMATIC OVERALL VIEW OF THE PRODUCTION OF PROTEIN L

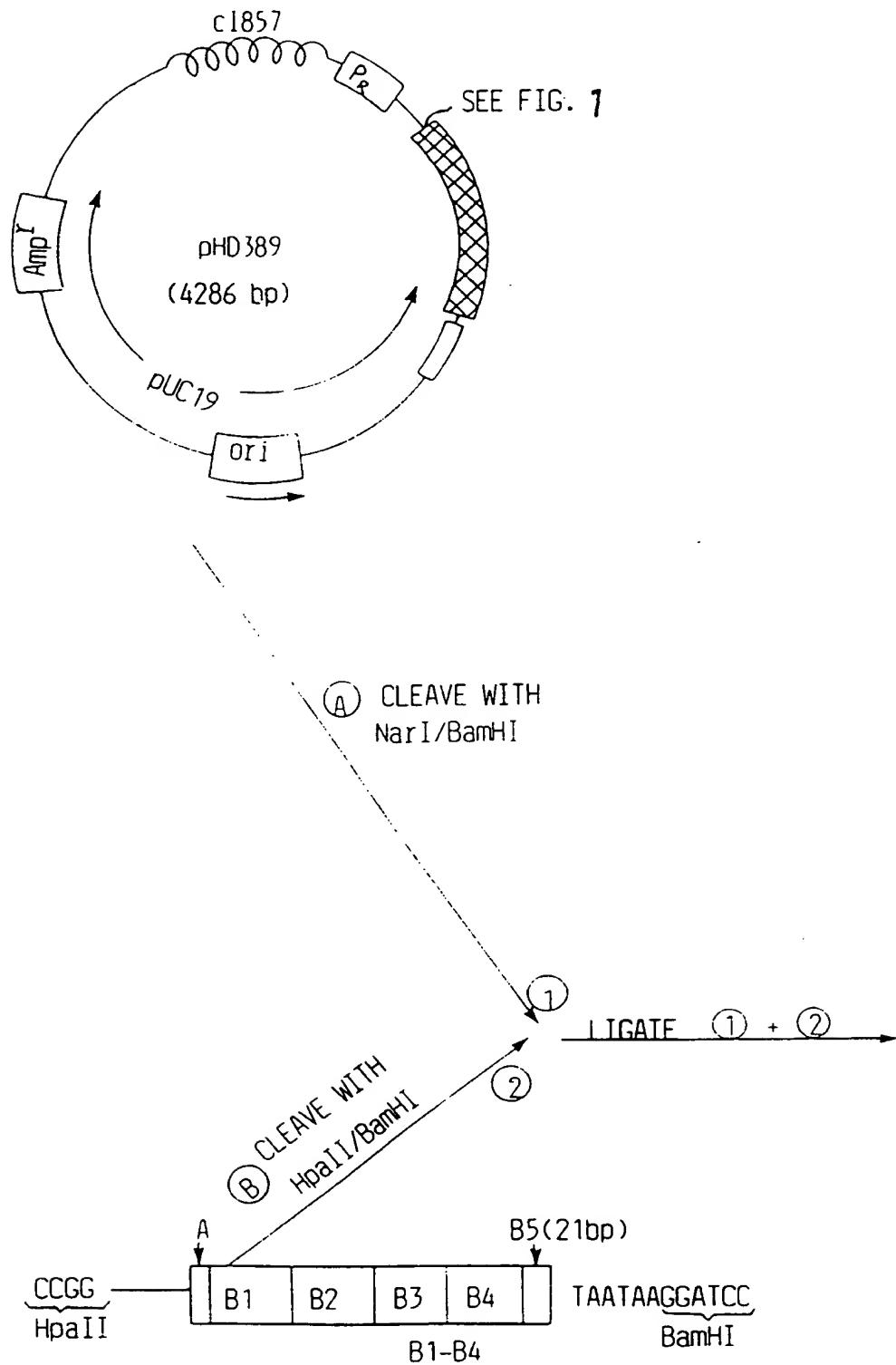


FIG.3(1)

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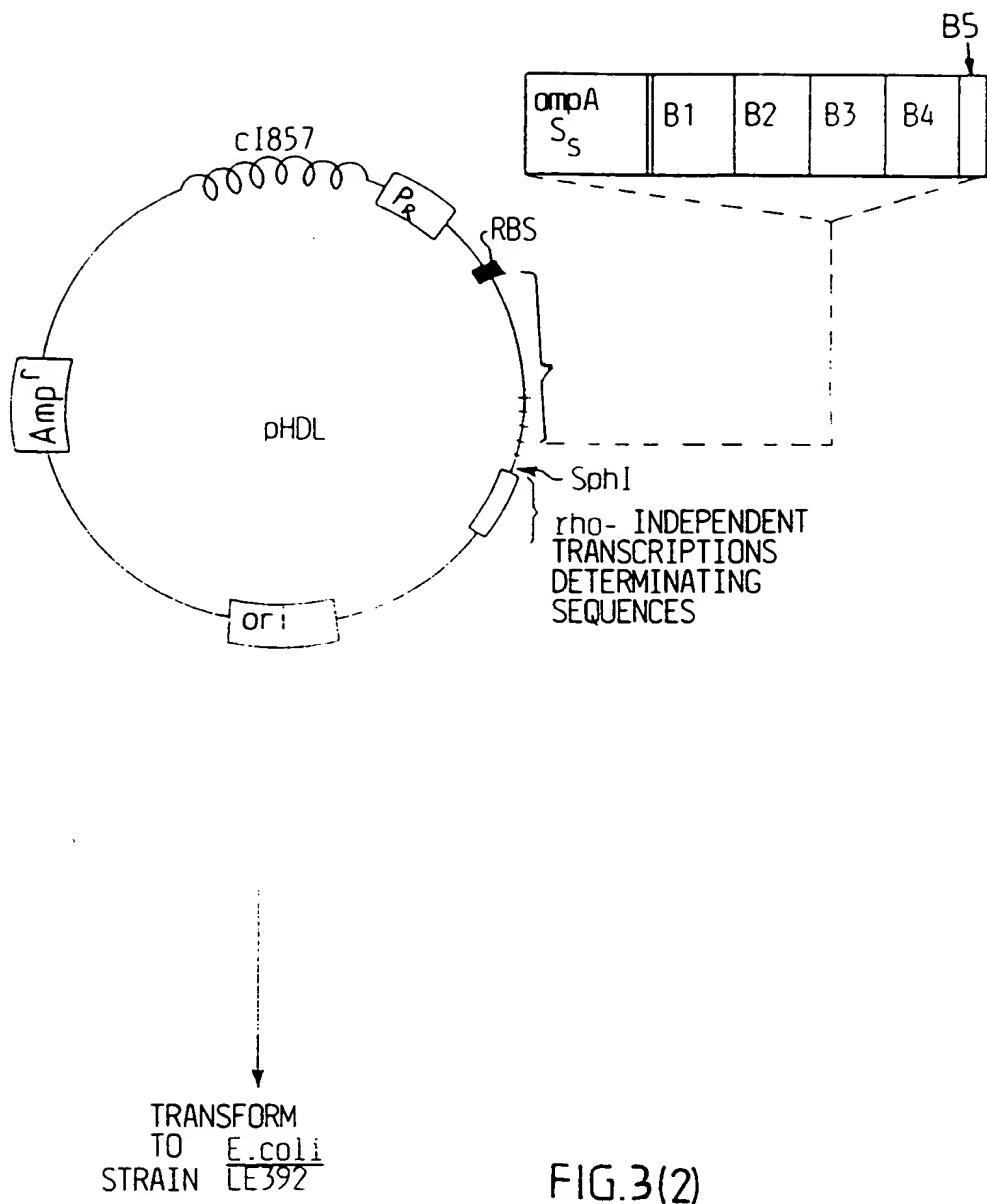


FIG.3(2)

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FIG. 4 SCHEMATIC OVERALL VIEW OF PRODUCTION
OF PROTEIN LG

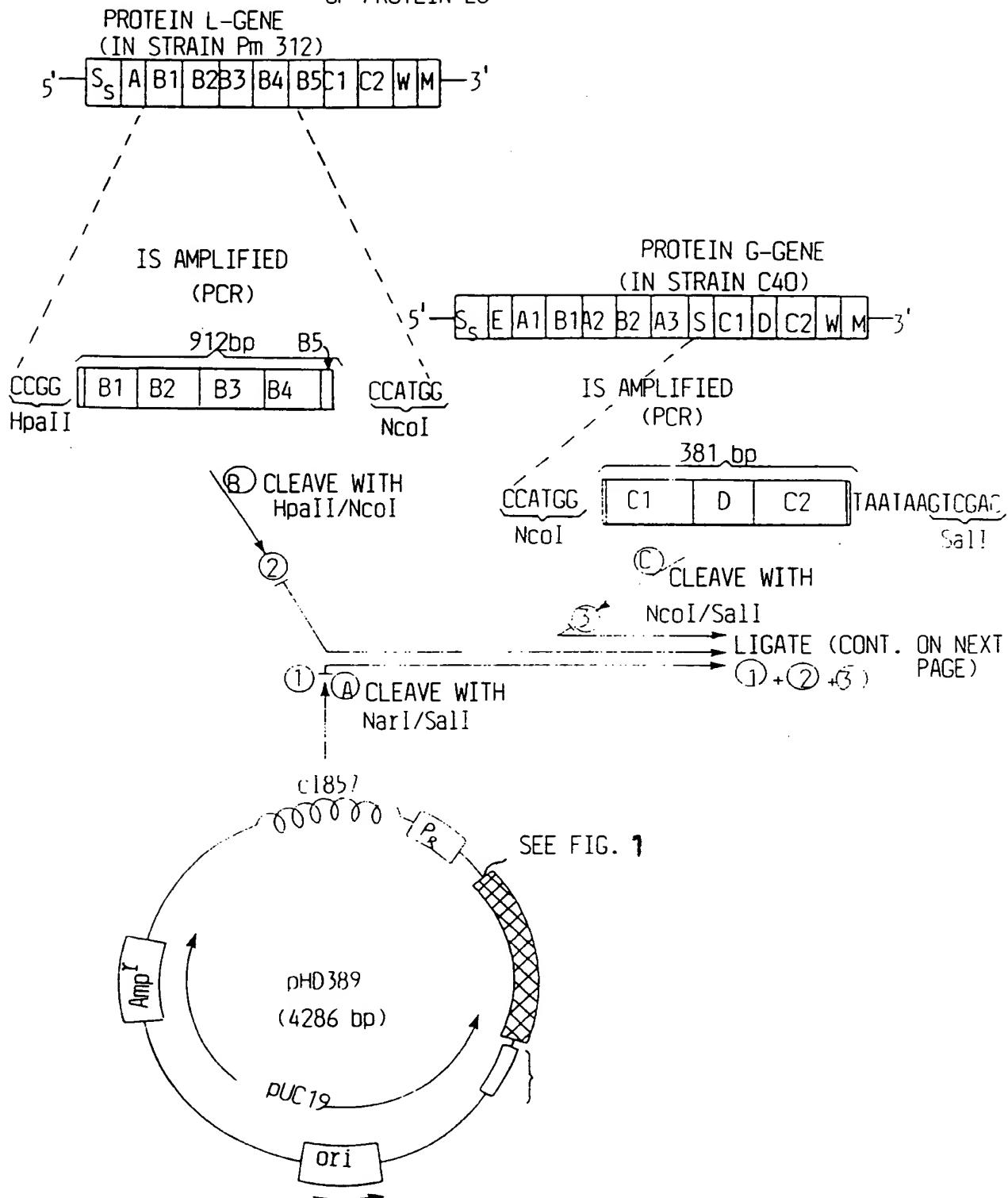
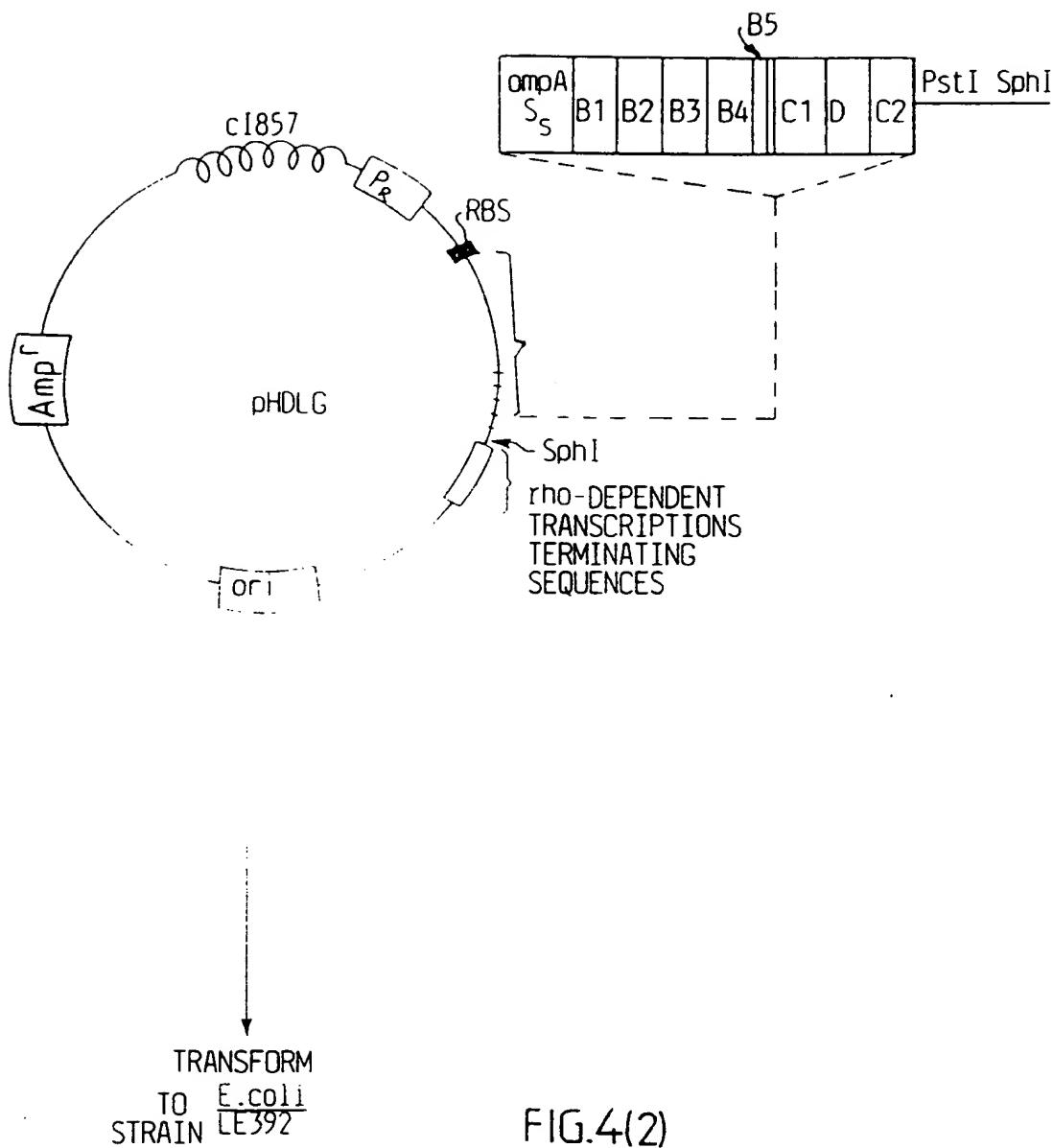


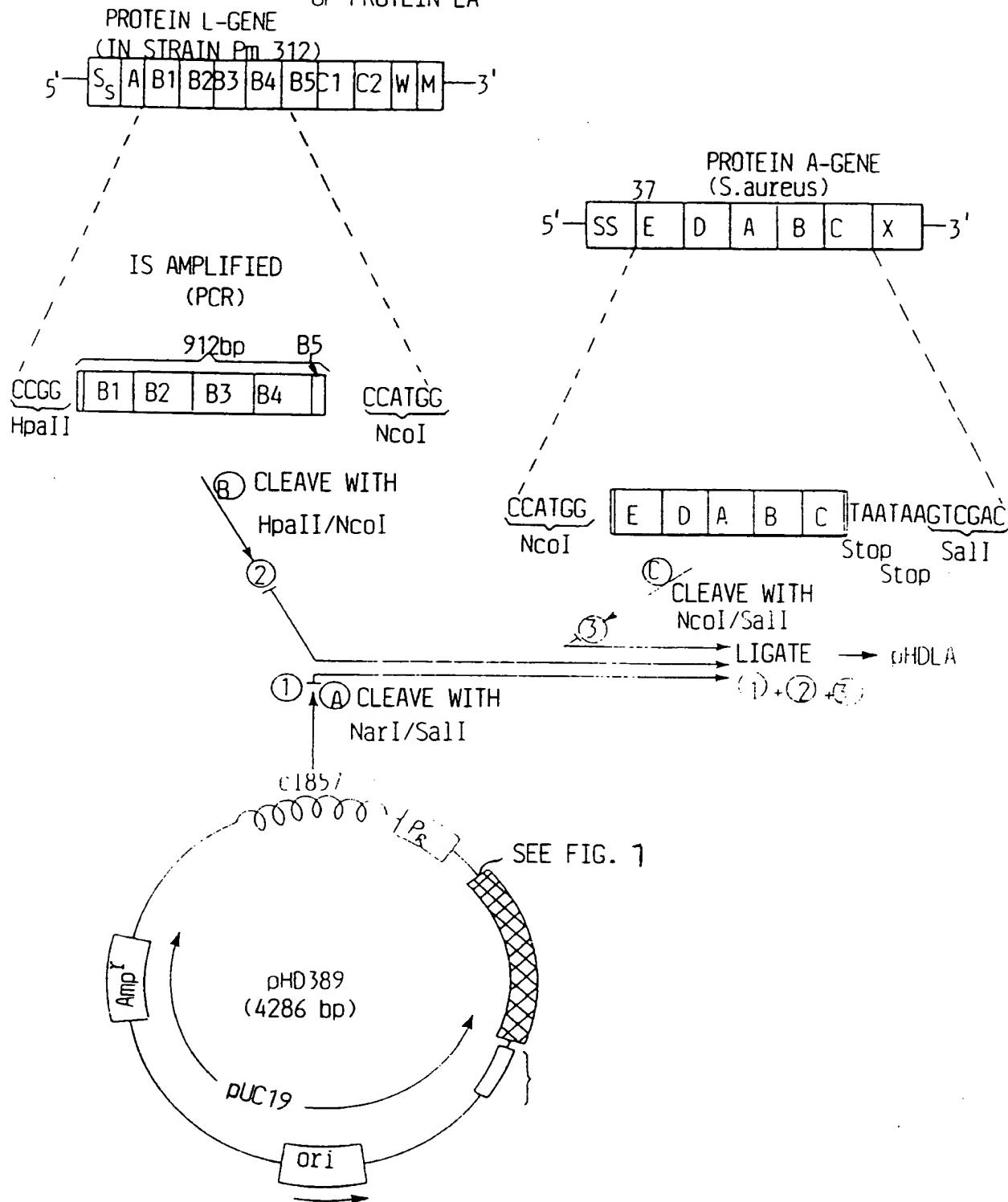
FIG. 4(1)

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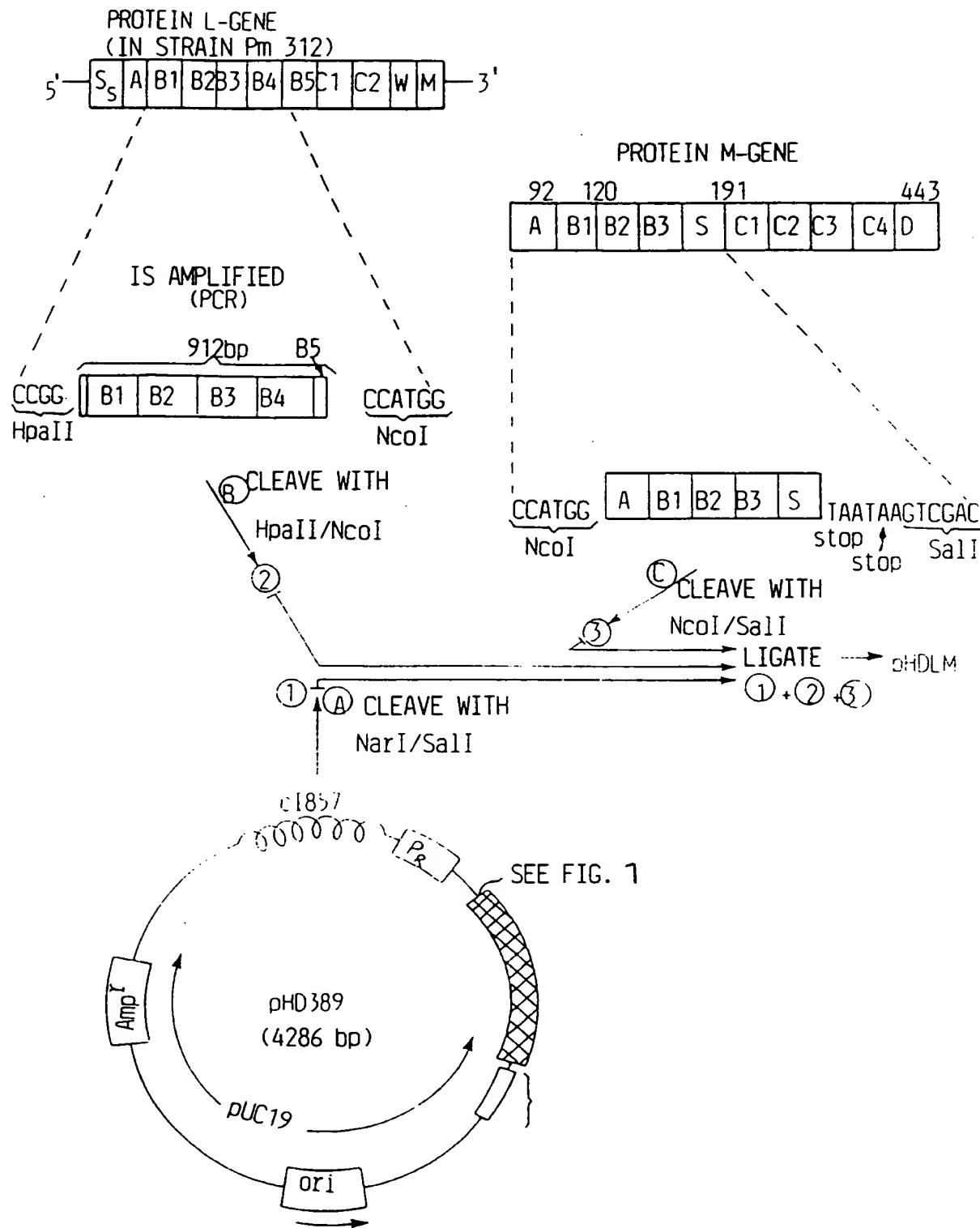
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FIG.5a

SCHEMATIC OVERALL VIEW OF THE PRODUCTION
OF PROTEIN LA

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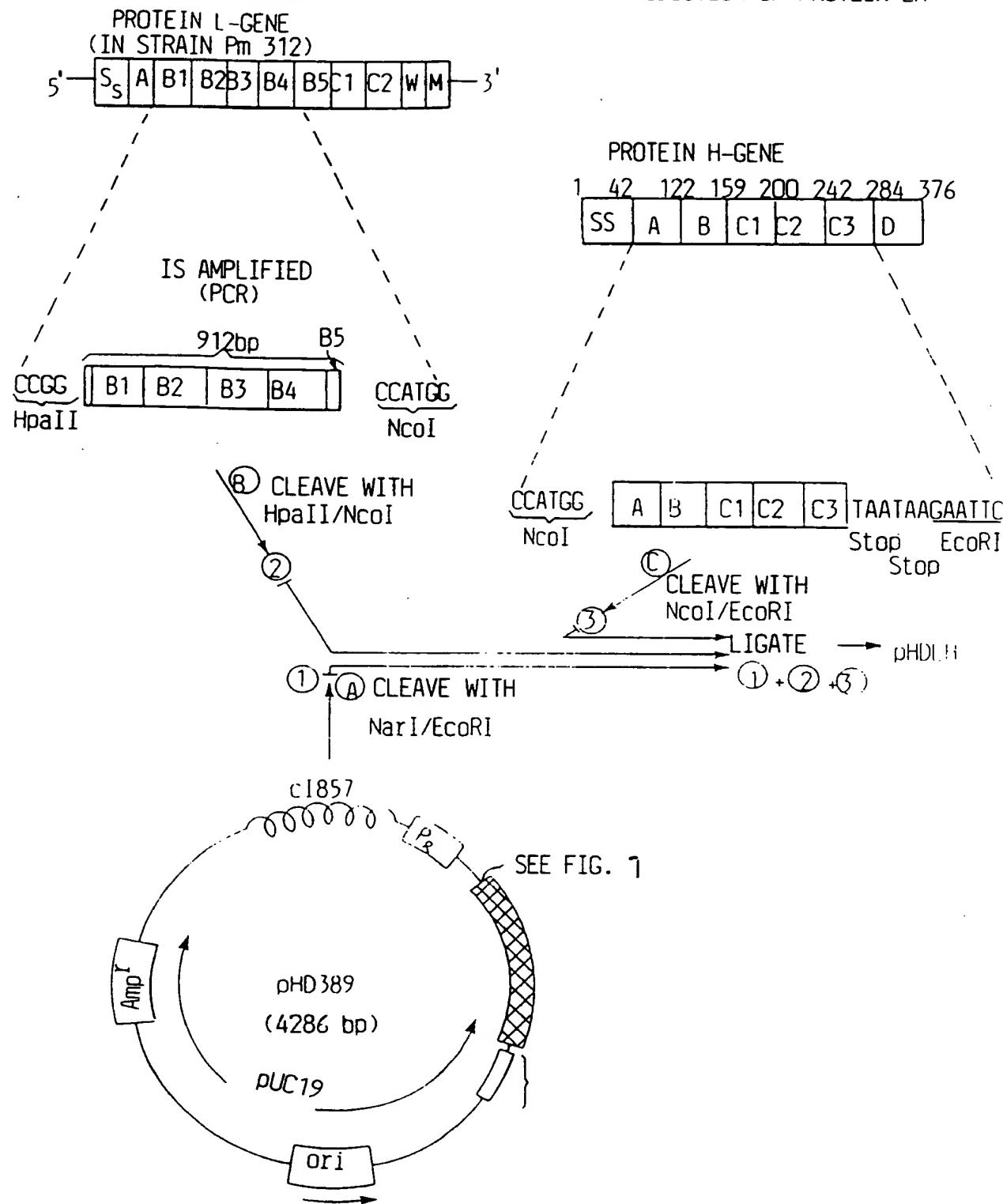
FIG.5b SCHEMATIC OVERALL VIEW OF THE PRODUCTION OF PROTEIN LM



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FIG. 5c

SCHEMATIC OVERALL VIEW OF THE PRODUCTION OF PROTEIN LH



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	PROTEIN A				
1	37	93	154	212	270
	Ss	E	D	A	B
				C	
				X	

	PROTEIN G				
1	34	93	154	212	267
	Ss	E	A1	B1	A2
				B2	A3
			C1	S	C1
			D	D	C2
					D
1	42	117	192	291	358
					428
					568
					593

	PROTEIN H				
1	42	122	159	200	242
	Ss	A	B	C1	C2
				C3	C3
				D	D

M1 PROTEIN B3 (148-153)

	M1 PROTEIN B3 (148-153)				
1	A	B1	B2	S	C1
				C2	C3
				C4	D
1	92	120	154	191	233
					275
					318
					339
					443

FIG. 6

AACGGTGGTAAATCCTAGGGAAAGTTATAGAAAGATCTTSCAGCAAAACAAATTCGCCAATA
 AsnGlyAspGlyAsnFroArgIluValIleGluAspLeuAlaAlaAsnAsnFroAlaIle 60
 20
 CAAATAACGTTACGTACGGACTTAAAGCGAGATTAGAGAATGCAATG
 GluAsnIleArgLeuArgAspFhelyAsnLysAspLeuLysAlaArgLeuGluAsnAlaMet 120
 40
 GAAGTTGCAGGAAGGAAAGATTAAAGAGAACTTGAAGAAGCTTGAAAGAAACTACAAACAAAGCCTTA
 GluValAlaIleArgAspFhelyAsnGluGluLeuGluLysAlaGluGluLysAlaLysGlnAlaLeu 180
 60
 GAAGACCAAGCGTAAAGATTAGAAACTAAATTAAAGAAACTACAAACAAAGACTATGACTTA
 GluAspGlnAsnArgLysAspLeuGluThrLysLeuLysGluGluGluLysAspTyrAspLeu 240
 80
 GCAAAAGGAATCAACAAGTTAGACCAAGGAAAGACTTGAAGAAGAGAAAG
 AspGlnSerThrSerTrpAspArgGlnArgLeuGluLysGluGluLysGluLys 300
 100
 GAAGCTCTTGAATTAGCGATAGACCCAGGCCAAGTCGGGACTTACCATAGAGGCTACCGCTTA
 GluAlaLeuGluIleLeuAlaIleAspGlnAlaSerArgAspTyrHisArgAlaThrAlaLeu 360
 120
 GAAAAAGAGTTAGAAAGAGAAAGGETCTTGAATTAGCGATAGACCAAGCGAGTCAG
 GluLysGluLeuGluGluLysLysAlaLeuGluLysAlaIleAspGlnAlaSerGln 420
 140
 GACTATAATAGAGCTAACGTTAGAAAGAGTTAGAAACGATTACTAGAGAAACAAAGAG
 AspTyrAsnArgAlaAsnValLeuGluLysGluLysGluGluLysGluGlu 480
 160
 ATTAAATCGTAAATCTTTAGGGCAATGCAACTTGTGATCAACTTTCTATCTGAAAAA
 IleAsnArgAsnLeuLeuGlyAsnAlaLysLeuGluLysLeuAspGlnLeuSerSerGluLys 540
 180

FIG. 7 (CONT.)

GAGCAGCTAACGATCGAAAAAGCAAAACTTGAGGAAGAAATCTAGACGCCAAGT
 GluGlnLeuThrIleGluLysAlaLysLeuGluGluGluLysGlnIleSerAspAlaSer
 190

CGTCAAAGCCTCGTGGACTTGACGCCATCACGTTGAGCTAAGAAACAGGTTGAAAAA
 ArgGlnSerLeuArgAspLeuAspAlaSerArgGluAlaLysLysGlnValGluLys
 220

GATTAGCAAACTTGACTTGCTGAACTTAAGGTTAAAGAAAGACAAACAAATCTCAGAC
 AspLeuAlaAsnLeuThrAlaGluLeuAspLysValLysGlnIleSerAsp
 240

GCAAGCCGTCAACGGCTTCGCCGTGACTTGGACGCATCACGGTGAAGCTAAAGAAACAGGT
 AlaSerArgGlnArgLeuArgArgAspLeuAspAlaSerArgGluAlaLysLys
 780

FIG. 7 (CONT.)

Amino acid sequence and nucleic acid sequence for protein M1, IgG-binding somewhere between amino acid 1-190.

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GAAAAAGATTAGCAAACCTGAACTTGAACCTGGATAAGGTTAAAGAAAGAAAAACAAATC
 GluLysAspLeuAlaAsnLeuThrAlaGluLeuAspLysValLysGluGluLysGinile 840
 280

CAAGTGTGAAAGCTTTAGAAGGAAACAGCCAAATTAGCTGCTCTGAAAAACTTAAC
 GlnValGluLysAlaSerArgGlnArgLeuArgAspLeuAspAlaSerArgGluAlaLys 900
 300

AAAGAGCTTGAAGGAAAGCAAACAGCAAAATTAGCTGAAACTACAAGGAAAA
 LysGluLysAlaSerLysLeuThrGluLysGluLysAlaGluLeuGlnAlaLys 960
 320

CTTGAGGCAAGGAAAGCAACTCAAAGAACAAATTAGCGAAACAAAGCTGAAAGAAACTCGCA
 LeuGluAlaGluAlaLysAlaLeuLysGluGlnLeuAlaLysGinAlaGluGluLeuAla 1080
 360

AAACTAAGAGCTGGAAAGGCAACTCACAACCCCTGATACAAACAGGAAACAA
 LysLeuArgAlaGlyLysAlaSerAspSerGlnThrProAspThrLysProGlyAsnLys 1140
 380

GCTGTTCAGGTAAAGGTCAAGCACCAAGCAGGTACAAACCTAACCCAAAGCA
 AlaValIProGlyLysGlyGlnAlaProGlnAlaGlyThrLysProAsnGlnAsnLysAla 1200
 400

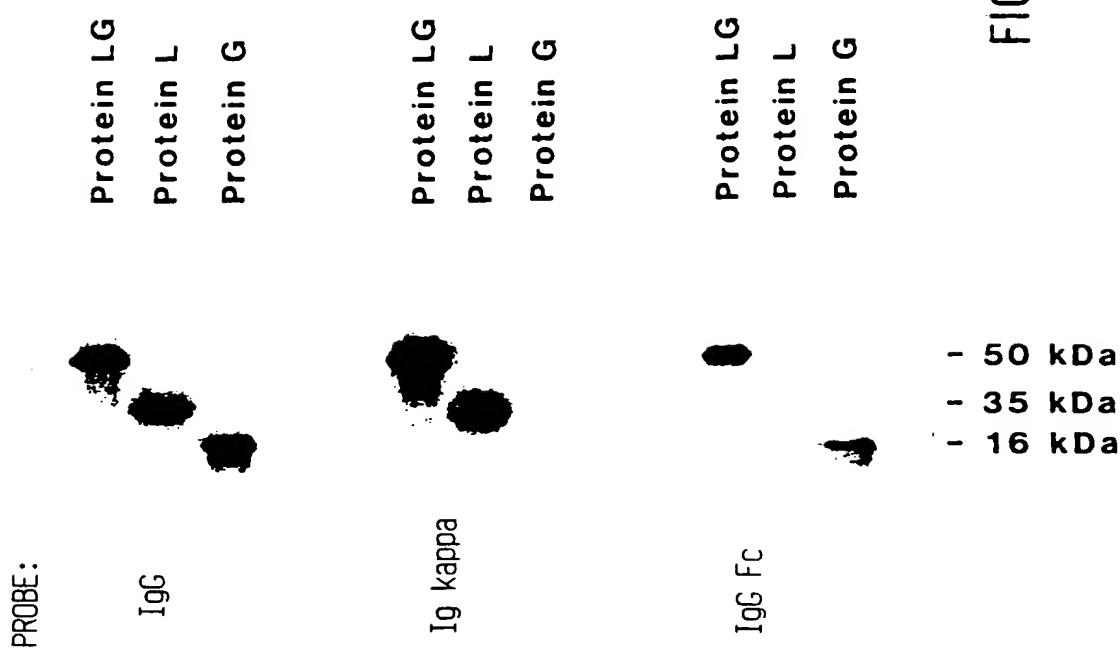
CCAATGAGGAAACTAAGAGACAGTTACCATCAACAGGTGAAACAGCTAACCCATTCTC
 ProMetLysGluThrLysArgGlnLeuProSerThrGlyGluThrAlaAsnProPhePhe 1260
 420

ACAGCGGCACGGCTTACTGTTATGGCAACAGCTGGAGTAGCAGCAGTTGTAAACGCCAA
 ThrAlaAlaArgValThrValMetAlaThrAlaGlyValAlaAlaValValLysArgLys 1320
 440

GAAGAAACAACTAAAG
 GluGluAsn>>> 1329
 443

FIG.7

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**SUBSTITUTE SHEET**

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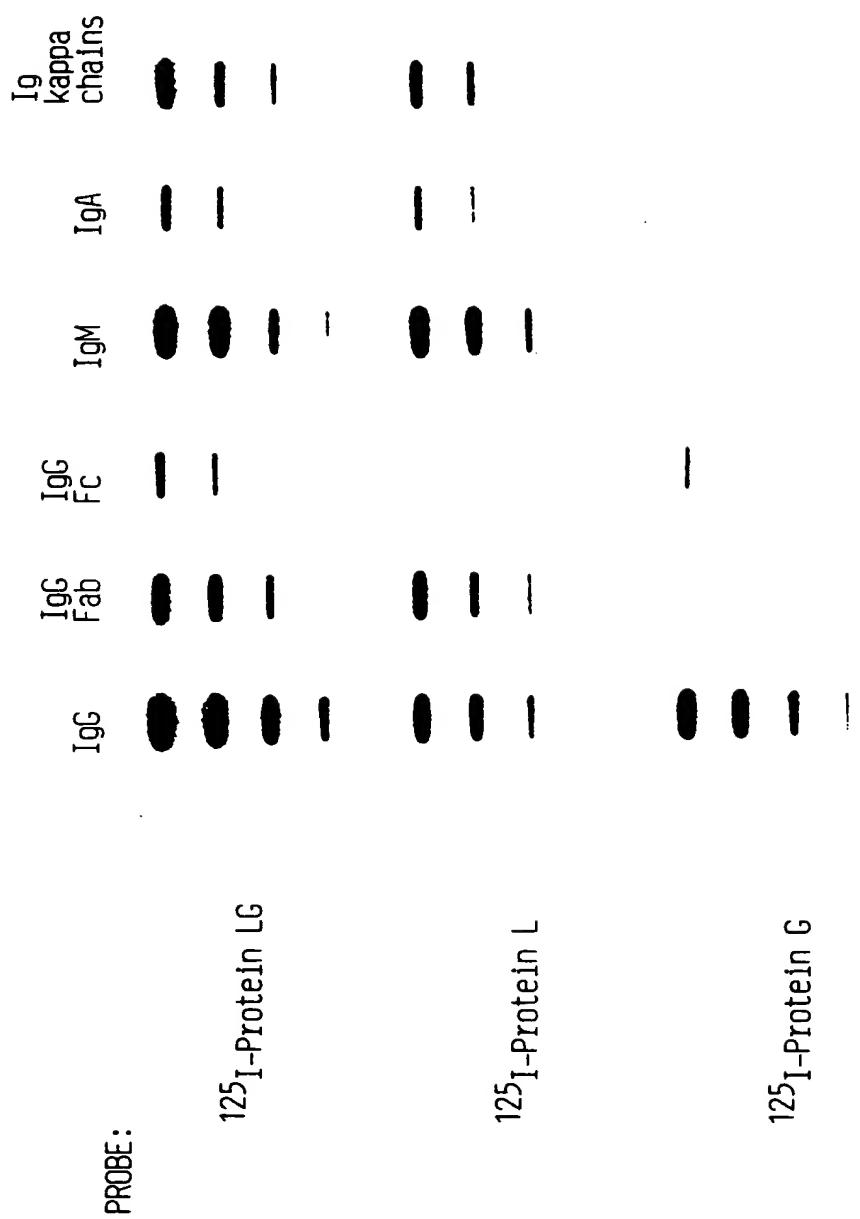


FIG. 9

SUBSTITUTE SHEET

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 93/00375

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC5: C07K 13/00, C12N 15/31, C12N 15/62, A61K 37/02, C07K 3/18
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC5: C07K, C12N, A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP, A2, 0255497 (HIGHTECH RECEPTOR AB), 3 February 1988 (03.02.88) --	1-2,8-14
Y	WO, A1, 8705631 (PHARMACIA AB), 24 Sept 1987 (24.09.87), see especially claim 9 --	3-14
P,X	The Journal of Biological Chemistry, Volume 267, No 18, 1992, William Kastern et al, "Structure of Peptostreptococcal Protein L and Identification of a Repeated Immunoglobulin Light Chain-binding Domain", pp. 12820-12825 --	1-2,8-14

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

- * Special categories of cited documents:
- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "B" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 July 1993

Date of mailing of the international search report

29 -07- 1993

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 93/00375

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	INFECTION AND IMMUNITY, 58(1990-05):5 William Kastern et al: "Protein L, a Bacterial Immunoglobulin-Binding Protein and Possible Virulence Determinant", page 1217 - page 1222; see especially fig. 4 and 5	1-2,8-14
Y	<p>---</p> <p>-----</p>	3-14

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
02/07/93 PCT/SE 93/00375

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP-A2- 0255497	03/02/88	JP-A-	63032372	12/02/88
		US-A-	4876194	24/10/89

WO-A1- 8705631	24/09/87	DE-A-	3783191	04/02/93
		EP-A,B-	0262192	06/04/88
		SE-T3-	0262192	